STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

1919—1921.

CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE 1919—1921.

Copy of D. O. No. P. 23—Encl. 2 dated 20th March 1919, from Mr. A. R. Banerji, Officiating Dewan to Mr. R. H. Campbell, Private Secretary to His Highness.

I beg to submit for the information of His Highness, that there was a meeting of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science last Monday, at which important questions relating to the future of the Institute were discussed. Certain views said to be those of Sir Thomas Holland were informally circulated (copy enclosed for reference and favour of return) indicating that the very principle of the location of the Institute is likely to be re-opened. It seems to me that it is necessary that the Government of Mysore should be prepared to combat this view. A Sub-Committee consisting of Mr. Chatterton and two of the chemists of the Institute has drawn up a report suggesting certain changes in the organisation and management of the Institute and proposing to invest the Director with greater powers. These raise very important issues and will practically reduce to nothing the voice that the Government of Mysore at present have in the administration of the Institute. There was considerable discussion at the meeting and it was then resolved, with reference to the opposition that was likely to be put forward by the Government of India and the Committee of Chemists about to be appointed to investigate into the question of the present working of the Institute of Science, that a draft report be prepared and circulated to the members of the Council for submission to the Government of India. This report is to be discussed at a Council Meeting next July. When the draft is circulated, I shall submit the same to His Highness and discuss all the points affecting the position of the Government of Mysore in detail. This is only to keep His Highness informed of the developments that are about to take place.

I may add that the idea of the staff of chemists at the Institute is to limit the working of the Institute only to researches connected with chemical industries and abolish all other departments. My fear is that as soon as such a scheme is propounded, the Government of India will find it as an excuse to question the location of the Institute at Bangalore. My view is that the Mysore Government are, at present, not getting their full money's worth by way of training the Mysoreans and the services of their staff. The question requires very careful consideration.

Copy of D. O. No. 206, dated 6th September 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji, Offg. Dewan to the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja.

I beg to submit, for the kind perusal of His Highness, the draft of the minutes of the meeting of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science, held on the 19th July last. Resolution XI appointing a Sub-Committee to consider what changes should be recommended in the constitution of the Institute, and Resolution XII relating to the appointment of Sir Alexander Cardew as the future Director, are very important and seem to require notice by the Mysore Government.

In regard to the appointment of the Director, it is noteworthy that the Council have proceeded to select a gentleman to have charge of the Institute as Director before future policy regarding the Institute is decided upon. The qualifications required in a Director will largely depend on the nature of the work proposed to be carried on in the Institute and specially in the present circumstances, it was important that the policy should have been first decided as the Chemical Services Committee have made important recommendations to the Government of India in which the Indian Institute of Science has no place. It is also unfortunate that the nomination made by the Council is totally opposed to the recommendations of this Committee who propose that a Director of a Provincial Research Institute must be a Chemist "who has had charge of large-scale work and who is conversant with large-scale operations." As His Highness is aware, the gentleman selected as the future Director is neither a Chemist nor has he industrial experience. Further, as the Indian Press has stated, he is not reputed for large ideas and sympathy for Indians.

Again, the resolution appointing a Sub-Committee to recommend the future constitution of the Institute appears to be objectionable on more than one ground. It should be observed that the recommendation regarding the change in the constitution is proposed to be made only to Sir Dorab Tata and the Government of India and no mention is made of the Government of Mysore whose claim to be consulted on such an important question as the policy of the Institute is as strong as that of either Sir Dorab Tata or the Government of India in view of their original participation in the organisation of the Institute and the substantial contribution they make towards its finances. In the Residency letter communicating the Vesting Order of the Government of India relating to the Institute, the position of the Government of Mysore as among the original organisers of the Institute is clearly recognised.

The selection of the Dewan to serve on the Sub-Committee to draft the constitution is a clever move to obviate any protests from the Government of Mysore on the recommendations of the Council. I do not think that it is advisable that the Dewan should occupy such a position.

Under the present constitution of the Institute, the only manner in which the proposals of the Council can be called in question is for the Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors who have power to review the decisions of the Council to bring them to the notice of the Patron, *i.e.*, the Viceroy. The Government have a representative on the Standing Committee, *i.e.*, the Vice-Chancellor of the University. I think the situation is sufficiently important to move the Standing Committee at once to take such action if the Council refuses to re-consider their resolutions. The future organisation of the Institute is a matter of great importance to Mysore and it is necessary that we should discharge our responsibilities and make a move in this matter at this critical juncture.

In this connection, I invite a reference to my demi-official letter on the whole subject of the future development of the Institute, which I submitted last time I was officiating, after attending one of the Council meetings of the Institute when the question came up for the first time.

I also submit a note * prepared under my instructions which explains the case. With His Highness permission, I should like to suggest to the Viceroy to move in the matter and also to mention it to Sir John Wood if I find an opportunity of meeting him at Simla.

* Printed on page 7.

Extract from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science held at the Offices of the Institute on Monday, the 19th July 1920, at 12 noon.

Resolution XI.—That before dealing with important questions of future policy it is desirable to consider what changes, if any, in the constitution should be recommended to Sir Dorab Tata and the Government of India and that a Committee consisting of the Hon'ble the Resident, the Dewan of Mysore, Mr. Bhabha, Mr. Campbell and the Director be appointed for this purpose.

With regard to the Directorship, the Council were divided in opinion as to whether the Director should be primarily an administrator without professorial duties or whether an attempt should be made to secure an eminent scientist with administrative ability as advocated by Mr. Bhabha. The majority of the Council agreed to adopt the former view for, at any rate, a limited period.

Resolution XII.—That Sir Arthur Lawley, G.C.I.E. and Sir Murray Hammick, K.C.S.I., be requested to be the Committee prescribed in Regulation 25 and be informed that the Council is willing to appoint Sir Alexander Cardew, K.C.S.I., should they nominate him.

Further that if nominated Sir Alexander Cardew be offered the appointment subject to an agreement identical with that executed by the present Director except as regards passage money which will be unnecessary and that there need be no reference to an endeavour to obtain contributions.

It was agreed that Sir Alfred Bourne should if possible fix in communication with Sir Alexander Cardew on some convenient date on or after the 12th October for handing over charge.

Copy of D. O. No. 77, dated 7th September 1920, from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja, to Mr. A. R. Banerji, Offg. Dewan.

I am directed to return the accompanying papers and to say that His Highness approves of the proposals made in your D. O. No. 206, dated the 6th September, forwarding them.

Extracts from the notes of discussion and correspondence connected with the Deputation of Mr. A. R. Banerji, C.I.E., I.C.S., to Simla in September 1920.

INTERVIEW WITH SIR THOMAS HOLLAND.

"I had two interviews with Sir Thomas Holland, one while I dined with him on the 15th September. At this interview, Mr. Gilbert Walker was also present. The second interview was in Sir Thomas Holland's Office at which his colleagues, Sir Earnest Low and Mr. Chatterjee—members of the Industries and Munition Board—were also present. I left with Sir Thomas Holland the Secretariat note prepared by Mr. D'Souza on the Institute of Science and also my own note on the questions now pending. On the first evening, I very strongly and emphatically urged that the manner in which the Institute was being controlled and administered was almost a public scandal. I pointed out that the chemists and professors formed the majority in the Council and the recent resolution appointing a subcommittee to frame a constitution was *ultra vires* and added that the resolution practically nominating Sir Alexander Cardew as Director was also irregular. I urged that the Patron should now exercise his authority, and appoint a Committee to investigate into the whole matter.

Sir Thomas Holland agreed with me that the position of the chemists was an anomalous one, that they had degraded themselves by taking up private practice which made them unsatisfactory workers in such an institution and that he thought there was no doubt this was a case for a Special Committee of enquiry. He then gave me his own personal opinion that the Institute may be handed over as a free gift to the Durbar releasing the endowments which the Tatas may utilize elsewhere, and the Government of India may also give a grant to help the Durbar to develop the Institute in connection with the Mysore University.

I said that such a proposal would be very acceptable to the Durbar provided the Tatas are agreeable and the Government of India continued their grant. Mr. Walker seemed also to be against the appointment of a civil administrator for the Directorship of the Institute and agreed with all my views which both of us very forcibly pressed on Sir Thomas Holland, during our discussions. It was then suggested that I should meet Sir Thomas Holland with his Board to have a final talk over the matter and I agreed to meet him on the day that I left Simla.

At the second interview, the whole constitution was examined and it was found that the Patron could, on his own initiative, appoint a Committee and it was decided that His Excellency the Viceroy should be advised to appoint a Committee at once provided a representation came simultaneously both from the Mysore Government and the Tatas. It was therefore suggested that I should telegraph to Messrs. Ghandy and Bhabha to meet ~~me at Poona~~ and arrange to send up a representation as soon as possible, as it was necessary to have these representations in order to prevent the appointment of Sir Alexander Cardew going through, specially as Sir Alfred Bourne's term was nearly up and a successor has to be appointed without delay. Sir Thomas Holland told me that in regard to these matters, he was practically the Viceroy and also hinted at the fact that so far as the last meeting was concerned, the Mysore Durbar had raised no objection in regard to Mr. Cardew's appointment.

I pointed out that the matter was sprung up so suddenly, that it was not fair to the Dewan to be considered as a party to the resolution and in fact, it was not right that the Dewan should be a member of the Council which is a subordinate body to that of the Standing Committee where the Vice-Chancellor of the Mysore University had a seat.

Sir Thomas Holland personally gave three alternatives:—

(i) To make the Bangalore Institute of Science a Central Research Institute for the whole of India if the Dera Dhun Scheme is to be abandoned.

(ii) To make it a Central Institute for Mysore, Bombay and Madras.

(iii) To hand it over entirely to Mysore to be worked as a part of their University.

Sir Thomas also gave out as his opinion that it was altogether wrong on principle to allow the chemists to take private practice in any schemes in which they have a personal and private interest and that there was no objection to the Institute receiving fees for investigations, so long as no chemist is individually interested in any one scheme, and if it appeared to be in the best interests of the Institute that the chemists should take interest in these schemes, the fees should be distributed.

I said that Mysore should have a more effective voice in the management of the Institute and Sir Thomas agreed that, being so far away from the Government of India and the Tatas, the only authority to control the Institute was the Mysore Durbar and it was inevitable that such an Institute should, in the end, be a local one.

Sir Thomas Holland then asked whether the Institute should be a purely Research Institute or also a Teaching Institute, and he gave as his own opinion that he thought it was better to combine both, as teaching and research both helped to keep among the workers a broad outlook and a state of continuous progress.

I left the matter entirely in the hands of Sir Thomas Holland as I found that he was in complete agreement with our views and as I found that his Board was also anxious that something should be done to investigate into the whole case. I

promised to send a representation from the Durbar as soon as possible and also to secure the co-operation of the Tatas' representatives so that the Viceroy may have some ground for action. His Excellency can take the initiative under the existing constitution and appoint a Special Committee to report to him and thus have some justification for declining to sanction the appointment of a Director at this juncture. The note I left with Sir Thomas Holland will be found on page 7.

In accordance with the arrangement made at Simla, I telegraphed to Messrs. Bhabha and Ghandy and I had a long talk with them at Poona Station. The subsequent correspondence in regard to this matter has already been submitted to the Huzur Secretary for His Highness' kind perusal and the draft representation from Mysore has also been put up for approval separately. It has to be noted in this connection, that Mr. Ghandy was very agreeably surprised to hear of Sir Thoms Holland's present attitude. As suggested by me to Mr. Ghandy, he cabled to Sir Dorabji Tata and has received authorization to act on his behalf and submit a representation to the Patron for the appointment of a Committee on the lines of the Mysore representation.

Sir Thomas gave the information that Sir Dorabji was moving in England to oppose the appointment of Sir Alexander Cardew and after my conversation with the Tatas' representatives in Poona and after perusal of the correspondence that Mr. Ghandy sent me, I addressed a letter to Sir Thomas Holland which along with his reply I reproduce below :—

24th September 1920.

MY DEAR SIR THOMAS,

With reference to my representations to you on behalf of the Mysore Durbar on the subject of appointing a Special Committee to consider the question of the future constitution of the Indian Institute of Science and the appointment of a Director of the Institute to succeed Sir Alfred Bourne, I should like to place before you the exact position of affairs in connection with the Institute as they stand at present.

In accordance with your advice, I telegraphed to Messrs. Ghandy and Bhabha, the representatives of the Tatas in the Council of the Institute and met them at Poona with a view to secure their co-operation in the matter of a representation to His Excellency the Patron and I am glad to be able to inform you that they have promised to send such a representation simultaneously with the Mysore Durbar and we are now working together in this respect. In the meantime, it is necessary that I should informally bring to your notice certain matters in addition to those which I have already placed before you, and which have since come to my notice.

The Institute has been considering the question of modifying the constitution since November 1918. They appointed a Committee to draw up a report on the subject in that year and at a meeting on the 17th March 1919, the confidential report of this Committee was discussed by the Council and subsequently a resolution was recorded that the Government of India be addressed by the Council and the Director requested to prepare a draft based on the views expressed at the meeting. A reference to paragraph 48 of the Chemical Services Committee Report will show that the proposals of the Council of the Institute with regard to its future development were forwarded by the Government of India to this Committee for consideration. This Committee after making some observations, left it to the Council of that Institute to formulate, after perusal of the Committee's report, such further proposals as may seem requisite. Now, I beg to point out that the whole procedure in regard to the consideration by the Council of the constitution of the Institute is irregular and *ultra vires*. In the Vesting Order of the Government of India, Home Department dated the 27th May 1909, a scheme of management was sanctioned under which, the Council is the executive body of the Institute subject to conditions laid down in the Regulations ; and clause 20 of the scheme specifies the matters which are within the purview of this Council. I have already represented that the Council as at present constituted, contains a majority amongst the members of chemists in the service of the Institute and apart from the technical objection that the scheme of management does not empower the Council itself to discuss constitution and other matters for the future administration of the Institute, it is obviously undesirable that the Council as at present constituted, should sit and frame a constitution for the consideration of the Government of India.

At a meeting held on the 19th July 1920, the Council passed the following resolution :—"That before dealing with the important question of future policy, it is desirable to consider what changes, if any, in the constitution should be recommended to Sir Dorab Tata and the Government of India and that a Committee consisting of the Hon'ble the Resident, the Dewan of Mysore, Mr. Bhabha, Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell and the Director be appointed for the purpose." This resolution again, deals with a matter which is outside the functions of the Executive Council and really outside their competence therefore to discuss. It is the Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors which has power to review the decisions of the Council and to bring them to the notice of the Patron. In clause 35 of the Regulation, it is stated thus :—"The said Committee shall have power from time to time to require the Council to furnish such information and particulars in connection with the Institute as may be considered necessary. The said committee may make recommendations to the Council or Patron. Whenever the said Committee are of opinion that any matter in connection with the Institute requires investigation or inquiry, the said Committee shall report to the Patron who may

then appoint a Special Committee to make such investigation or inquiry and on the receipt of the report of such Special Committee, the Patron shall pass such orders as may be necessary and such orders shall be final." In the Regulation of the Government of India, Home Department dated the 27th May 1909, it is stated thus :—" The Council will be the executive body of the Institute, its proceedings being subject to review by the Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors. The Committee will have power of reporting to the Patron on the acts or proposals of the Council and the Patron may refer such report to a Special Committee and may afterwards make such order as may be necessary." Further, the Standing Committee has got power to communicate directly with the Patron.

From the above, it is obvious that in the matter of the future constitution and future policy of the Institute, it is the Standing Committee that should have moved and not the Executive Council. The recent resolution appointing a Sub-Committee to recommend the future constitution of the Institute is objectionable in that, the recommendation is proposed to be made to Sir Dorab Tata and the Government of India and no mention is made of the Government of Mysore whose claim to be consulted on such an important question as the policy of the Institute cannot be overlooked in view of their original participation in the organization of the Institute and the substantial contribution they are making towards its finances. In the Residency letter communicating the Vesting Order of the Government of India relating to the Institute, the position of the Government of Mysore as among the original organizers of the Institute is clearly recognized. The letter says :—" The Government of India have gladly co-operated with the Durbar in organizing the Institute which they confidently anticipate will have far-reaching effects upon the prosperity of the people of India. I am directed to ask that you will communicate to His Highness the Maharaja their appreciation of the generosity and public spirit displayed by the Durbar in contributing towards the establishment of the Indian Institute of Science."

Then again, the selection of the Dewan to serve on the Sub-Committee is a clever move to obviate any objections from the Government of Mysore on the recommendations of the Council. All these go to show that the manner in which this important question is being dealt with requires immediate intervention on the part of the Patron. I have already represented to you that the present constitution is defective in several respects, the most important of which, so far as the Mysore Durbar are concerned, being that they have not got any effective voice in regard to its supervision and contol.

Pending, however, the disposal of this important question, the Council have practically nominated a successor to Sir Alfred Bourne and as I have personally represented to you, it is extremely undesirable that a new Director should be appointed at this juncture before the future policy and constitution of the Institute have been determined. Under the draft scheme prepared by the Council, the Director is proposed to be given larger powers of control and management and it will be obviously unfair not only to the Institute but also to the Director himself, whoever he may happen to be, to sanction his appointment before questions of future policy are definitely laid down. In the draft scheme prepared by the Council itself, it was proposed that the Director should be invested with somewhat more extended powers than the officer now enjoys under the existing constitution and that he should be, if possible, a man of wider Indian experience who has been engaged in scientific practical work, and that he may well be expected to deliver two sets of addresses, etc., dealing with economic industry and resources of the country and Indian industrial problems. Directly opposed to these original ideas is the Council's present idea to nominate a person of only civil administrative experience.

You will be interested now to know that Sir Dorab Tata has been interviewing influential people in England in regard to the future policy of the Institute of Science, and he has been pressing his view that the want of a scientific head as Director of the Institute is greater to-day than it was in the past. There appears, however, to be some misunderstanding in regard to the procedure laid down for the appointment of a Director. In the Regulations, it is provided that the Council, for every appointment of a Director subsequent to the appointment of Dr. Travers, should nominate a Committee to assemble in England. The Committee shall send a name or names together with their recommendations to the Council. The Council then makes the appointment from among the persons so recommended and such appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the Patron.

The resolution of the Council at the last meeting was to the following effect :—"That Sir Arthur Lawley, G.C.B.E., and Sir Murray Hammick be requested to be a Committee and be informed that the Council is willing to appoint Sir Alexander Cardew, K.C.S.I., should they nominate him. Further that, if nominated, Sir Alexander Cardew be offered the appointment subject to an agreement identical with that executed by the present Director except as regards passage money which will be unnecessary and that there need be no reference to an endeavour to obtain contribution. It was agreed that Sir Alfred Bourne should, if possible, be in communication with Sir Alexander Cardew, at some convenient date after the 12th October, for handing over charge." This resolution is, of course, subject to confirmation at the next meeting. But in regard to this, some interesting correspondence has since taken place. The draft when circulated to members reads thus :—" With regard to the Directorship, the Council were divided in opinion as to whether the Director should be primarily an administrator without professorial duties, or whether an attempt should be made to secure an eminent scientist with administrative ability as advocated by Mr. Bhabha. The majority of the Council *agreed to adopt the former view for, at any rate, a limited period.*" When these draft proceedings were circulated, Mr. Ghandy wrote to the Director pointing out that in the place of the last sentence underlined above, the following should be inserted :—

"The Council resolved, Mr. Bhabha and Mr. Ghandy dissenting, to adopt the former view for at any rate, a limited period. After the word "period," I think the following should be added :—

"Mr. Ghandy stated that Sir Alfred Chatterton had first informed him that, Sir Alexander Cardew was prepared to accept the Directorship on an emolument of Rs. 1,500 per month but subsequently informed him that Sir Alexander would take Rs. 2,500 per month but should pay house-rent at the rate of Rs. 300 per month. Mr. Ghandy suggested that the emolument of Sir Alexander Cardew be fixed upon the terms which according to Sir Alfred Chatterton he was prepared to accept. The other members of the Council who were in favour of appointing him thought that it would not be proper to ask him to take less salary than that of the present Director. The Council then passed the following resolution, Mr. Bhabha and Mr. Ghandy dissenting."

The Dewan of Mysore was no doubt present at this meeting and he may be expected to say something when the proceedings come up for confirmation. Be that as it may, the resolution of the Council as it stands is such that any reasonable person will surely take exception to it. In the first place, it violates the constitution itself under which the Council has to appoint a committee in England but cannot give any direction to that Committee in regard to the selection of names. Secondly, the resolution practically makes the appointment a foregone conclusion as it prescribes arrangements for the relief of the present Director.

I think I stated during my last interview with you on the 17th instant that the Committee had nominated Sir Alexander Cardew and that the Council had confirmed the nomination, the matter now being left for the final approval of the Patron. I was wrong if I said so. The position is that, when the resolution of the Council was informally communicated to Sir Arthur Lawley and Sir Murray Hammick, they appear to have declared their inability to act unless their discretion was unfettered. This telegram was received by Mr. Ghandy on the 17th of September, that is to say, the very day that I was speaking to you at Simla. I also understand that Sir William Duke and Dr. Thorpe have both written to you suggesting the deferring of the appointment of a Director till the General Chemical Organization Committee are appointed and consulted. I also understand that Dr. Thorpe has suggested a commission of enquiry into the whole question of the Institute and that Sir William Pope has suggested that if the Cambridge University is approached, they might undertake the enquiry and re-organization. As already pointed out by me during our discussions, the income from the properties endowed has considerably increased and is likely to increase further in the future. The past working of the Institute and the condition in which it is at present, specially with reference to the position and the functions of the chemists employed under it, raise very important questions as regards its future policy which can best be settled after inquiry by a Special Committee. I have already represented to you the exact position in regard to these chemists and I will only quote the opinion Sir William Pope appears to have expressed in England to Sir Dorab Tata to the following effect:—"He was particularly sorry to hear that private practice played such large part among the professors of the Institute, for, he did not think that scientific work of any value could possibly be done so long as scientific men work for any consideration for the manufacturers." I have also represented to you the fact that although the chemists are receiving a monthly remuneration from the Government of Mysore, they have, by their negligence and wrong certificate of standard, caused loss to the Mysore Durbar to the extent of several thousand pounds in their sandalwood transactions.

I think, I have said enough to convince you that the necessity for the appointment of a Special Committee to enquire into the whole working of the Institute of Science and to recommend to the Government of India, and the representatives of the Tatas and the Government of Mysore, the future constitution for its satisfactory working, has become urgent and imperative. An official representation to the above effect is being submitted pointing out at the same time, the necessity of having in the Committee some representative of the Mysore Durbar in view of their original participation in the organization of the Institute and the contribution they have made from the beginning and are making towards its finances.

The permanent Dewan, Sirdar Kantaraja Urs, has returned from leave and has resumed his office; but as I thought it necessary to place before you for your information the latest developments of the case, I have taken this liberty, with his concurrence, to address you this informal and private letter. The official representation will be submitted as soon as possible so as to reach you on or about the date that the representatives of the Tatas find it convenient to forward theirs on the same subject.

Yours sincerely,

SIR THOMAS HOLLAND, K.C.I.E., F.R.S. A. R. B.

1st October 1920.

MY DEAR BANERJI,

I am glad to learn from your letter of the 24th September, that the Committee at home has not actually nominated a successor for Sir Alfred Bourne, as this removes one possible embarrassment that might have occurred, if we delayed the confirmation of the appointment in order to hold a Committee of enquiry into the future policy of the Institute.

2. The action of the Council in nominating a Director at the same time as appointing a Committee to make the nomination, seems to indicate that the constitution wants tightening up in some way. This activity and the formulation of proposals for changes in the constitution of the Institute seem to indicate that the Council, as an executive body, has tended to depart from its normal functions.

3. I shall await the arrival of the official representation which the Mysore Durbar and the Tatas propose to make before submitting the matter to His Excellency for orders. The fact that the Institute will shortly have a considerable addition to its income, suggests in itself the desirability of reviewing its constitution and functions before committing ourselves to considerable extensions.

Apparently, some interest is being taken in the matter at home, as, on the 2nd September, "Nature" a leading scientific weekly in London, inserted a note protesting against the supposed appointment of a non-scientific Director.

4. Sir Alexander Cardew came to see me last week to ask if it would be wise for him to wait in India for a decision regarding the appointment of Bourne's successor. I told him that no nomination had reached the Government of India, and that it seemed likely that, before an appointment is made, there would be a general review of the functions of the Institute, and that, consequently, it would be wiser for him to go home. He has started.

5. I am very much obliged to you, and I know that His Excellency will appreciate the very full review of the present situation which you have given in your letter of the 24th of September.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HOLLAND.

I give below copy of a letter Sir Thomas has addressed to Mr. Ghandy to show that my discussion at Simla on this question has had a telling effect :—

BOARD OF INDUSTRIES AND MUNITIONS, SIMLA,
October 8th, 1920.

DEAR MR. GHANDY,

I understand from Mr. A. R. Banerji, Senior Member of Council, that the Mysore State proposes to submit an official application for a Committee of Enquiry into the constitution and future policy of the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore. Mr. Banerji tells me also that you, on behalf of the Tatas, will make a similar move.

I have spoken to His Excellency the Viceroy about this, and he authorises me to say that in case you have decided to make an official application for a Committee of Enquiry, he would like it done as soon as convenient, as otherwise it would be difficult to hold up any nomination for a Director that may be sent in. We agree here with Mr. Banerji that the policy of the Institute, in view of its prospective increase in income, ought to be reviewed; but we do not propose to move without a definite request from you and Mysore, or, alternatively, a request from the requisite number of the Court of Visitors.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HOLLAND.

Copy forwarded for information to A. R. Banerji, Esq, C.I.E., I.C.S.

T. H. HOLLAND.

The opinions prevailing at Simla before my representations were made were clearly in favour of Sir Alexander Cardew's appointment as shown by the private letter addressed by Mr. Barton to Mr. Ghandy, after the former's return to Simla. This correspondence has been sent to the Dewan and need not be reproduced here."

MR. BANERJI'S NOTE ON THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

(Left with the Private Secretary to the Viceroy and Sir Thomas Holland at Simla.)

The questions requiring discussion regarding the administration of the Indian Institute of Science may briefly be considered under the following heads :—

I Time has now arrived to revise the constitution of the Institute.

(1) The scheme under which it is at present managed is drawn up under the Charitable Endowments Act (Act VI of 1890) and is confessedly of a temporary nature. As the undertaking of a Post-graduate University was, at the time the scheme was started, a novel one and was also of an experimental character, Government did not themselves consider it wise to tie the hands of the governing body by a statutory provision and therefore utilised the provisions of the Charitable Endowments Act to formulate a scheme for a Research University.

(2) The scheme was intended to deal with the management of an institution providing post-graduate University courses. The Council of the Institute now consider that this aspect of the institution should be dropped as it is more or less a failure, and that the present resources of the Institute could be more advantageously utilised in solving the technological, chemical problems specially pertaining to an industrially developing India (*vide* page 6 of the Draft Scheme).

The Report of the Chemical Services Committee also supports the recommendations of the Council in this matter. It may therefore be assumed that it is necessary to re-consider the line of work in which the Institute of Science is to engage inself henceforth, and therefore that a suitable constitution should be provided to enable it to discharge its future duties satisfactorily.

II. The revision should avoid the defects of its present organisation which explain more or less the cause of its unpopularity and its failure. It should provide a constitution that will enable it to be a real source of assistance in the development of the resources of the country.

(1) The present constitution with a Patron, Vice-Patrons, a Court of Visitors, a Standing Committee of the Court, a Council and a Senate, is exceedingly cumbrous and in result ineffectual. The authority in which the executive administration of the Institute is vested is the Council. It consists of twelve members. On this body, inclusive of the Director, five members of the Institute itself are represented. The Government of India, the Government of Mysore, and the Tatas who have provided all the funds, have only four seats, and the other three seats contain the representatives of the Court of Visitors who have no real interest in the working of the Institute consisting as they do of members drawn from all parts of India. As a result, the work of the Institute really is determined by the Director and the professors.

(2) The Draft Scheme prepared by the Executive Council indicates the necessity for a much simpler constitution which is also recommended by the Chemical Services Committee. The association of the Institute with the Government who are deeply interested in the industrial development of the country should be more intimate and the work of the Institute should be under the direct control of an officer who has business or industrial experience combined with technical and chemical knowledge.

(3) The association of professors along with representatives of the founders in a Council on an equal footing does not conduce to sarisfactory work and should not be continued.

III. This revision of the constitution should be undertaken by the Government of India in consultation with the Mysore Durbar and the Tatas who are the only authorities who have contributed large grants for the founding of the Institute and are interested in its success.

IV. It is advisable that the future policy of the Institute should be distinctly defined before its constitution is framed. The Chemical Services Committee as well as the Council of the Institute have, as already stated, both recommended that chemical research work with a view to industrial development should be the sole aim of the Institute in future. It is therefore necessary that the original plan should be modified so as to eliminate teaching work from the Institute.

V. The Executive Council of the Institute contemplate the appointment of a Director as the term of the present incumbent has expired. Opportunity should be taken of the appointment of a new Director to select a man who is fully qualified to direct the work of a Research Institute contemplated by the Chemical Services Committee. In the Draft Scheme prepared by the Council, it is suggested that it should be preferable if the Director is a man of wide experience and has been engaged in practical scientific work. They also add that he might "well be expected to deliver at least two set addresses every year dealing with the Economics of Industry, the Resources of the Country, and the Industrial Problems." This is exactly what the Chemical Services Committee recommend. But, however, at their last meeting, the Council have decided to appoint a European officer of great Indian administrative experience but very little business or chemical knowledge. It seems desirable that the Patron should not sanction this appointment before considering the whole scheme for the future administration of the Institute.

VI. As the Chemical Services Committee have directly left out of their consideration the Indian Institute of Science leaving it to be decided by the Council as to what course it should pursue after considering their report, the Patron, as contemplated by the present scheme, might appoint a Special Committee to report to him on the matter. The report may be referred to the Government of Mysore whose representations might be considered before final orders are passed.

Copy of letter dated 20th September 1920, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

As arranged yesterday, (Poona Meeting on 19th September,) I send you herein copies ofal l letters, interviews and opinions which I have received from Sir Dorabji with regard to the Directorship of the Bangalore Institute. You will see that the idea of an inquiry had also occurred to him, and you will also see that it is possible that the Cambridge University may undertake the inquiry. As we are all of opinion that the inquiry should be held by absolutely independent persons and not by Government Officials, an inquiry by the Cambridge University would I think be the best thing. I do not know if you would like to say this in your representation to the Viceroy. Even if you do not like to do it, I will put it in my representation on behalf of Sir Dorabji.

[ENCLOSURES.] *July 28th, 1920.*

DIRECTORSHIP : INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, NO. 1.

MY DEAR JIVAJI,

We had a prolonged conference with Sir Walter Fletcher and Professor Thorpe over a lunch at the Club yesterday. This conference was originally arranged to consider Prof. Starling's memoranda on the subject of the Indian Institute of Science and the two medical research schemes. But the two telegrams that we received from you this week, regarding the events that took place on the 19th at Bangalore, when the Council of the Institute nominated Sir Alexander Cardew as Sir Alfred Bourne's successor, had the effect of considerably disturbing Sir Dorabji's mind.

You will remember my writing to you some 4 or 5 weeks ago, conveying his definite opinion that what was wanted now at the Institute was a scientific man to develop its work further in the field of science and industry. When Sir Alfred Bourne was forced upon the Institute, he did not demur, because he felt that for two or three years a man was needed to revise the situation, and to work out the lines for the future development of the institution.

Sir Alfred Bourne, for one reason or another, has stayed on for nearly five years; it is true that during that time a considerable amount of work has been done at the Institute, but that was perhaps due more to the force of circumstances, and the requirements of war, than to his presence at the head of the Institute. Times have changed now, and the Institute has to be put on its scientific path—more so than it has been in the last 4 or 5 years. The income from the properties has increased, and Sir Dorabji is hoping that the Government of India, the Government of Mysore, and some of the other Native States, will see their way to endow the Institution with larger contributions than they have been able to in the past. It was for this reason he has been feeling that the want of a scientific head as Director of the Institute is greater to-day than it was in the past.

Sir Alfred Bourne had certain scientific qualifications in the fact that he was a Fellow of the Royal Society, but he cannot see the utility of appointing an administrator at the head of a scientific Institute.

The conference to-day focussed its attention on the two telegrams we received from you. Professor Thorpe said at the outset that he had visited the Institute, had examined its working, had enquired also into the scientific organisation that would be required for the country, and was in a position to state it as his definite opinion that the Institute could do no better at this stage than have a scientific head.

He had also other views on its working which I shall not trouble you with to-day, but on which I am hoping to write to you later on.

Sir Walter Fletcher is a medical man, but even as such, did not hesitate to express his opinion strongly and unequivocally in favour of a scientific Director. He said that he could not think of any research Institution in any part of the world, worth the name, which had a layman as its head, and he certainly thought that scientific opinion in this country would be unanimous in supporting Sir Dorabji's wish to have such a man as the head of such an Institute.

Sir Dorabji said that before he received these two telegrams, he was hoping to approach Prof. Thorpe with a view to requesting him to take up the Directorship of the Institute, if not for anything else than as a service to the scientific world and to India. He had hoped that Prof. Thorpe, with his invaluable knowledge of Indian conditions which he acquired as President of the Chemical Services Committee would take up the direction of the Institute and direct its scientific activities in co-ordination with the general scientific organisation that he himself had proposed for the country.

He did not know if the scheme outlined by Prof. Thorpe had yet met with the Government of India's approval, but he did not think that there would be any difficulty on that score. Even then, he felt that the Chemical Research Institute that the Government of India had proposed was still on paper, if not in the air, and that at Bangalore, Prof. Thorpe would have a ready made organisation all at his disposal. He would be able to pursue his own investigations, and to direct the policy of an Institution that was not only growing, but was hoping to find an important place in the scientific world, not only of India, but of the whole East.

Professor Thorpe said that, much as he would appreciate the honour of being chosen to direct the work of an Institute in whose possibilities he had the greatest faith, he was afraid he would not be able to say "yes" for, to some extent, he was tied to the Government of India in the matter of the Chemical Services organisation that they propose to establish, as a result of the recommendations of the Committee over which he presided. It was true that they had not yet approached him to take up the direction of the Chemical Services, but he was indirectly approached some time ago by Sir Thomas Holland, and if he went out to India at all, he felt that he should go out in charge of the

Government work, to which he felt he was somehow or the other committed. Money was no consideration to him, for he had no ambitions to be a rich man, and he had enough for himself and his wife.

While Sir Dorabji and Lady Tata were dining with him and Mrs. Thorpe the other day, Sir Dorabji casually asked Mrs. Thorpe what she thought on India, and whether she would like to go there again. Mrs. Thorpe replied to him without the slightest hesitation, that she "would go to India to-morrow if it was possible" for she liked the country and would like to live there. This had given Sir Dorabji some hopes of persuading the Professor to come out and take charge of the Institute, but with all the persuation that he and Sir Walter Fletcher could command, the only thing that Professor Thorpe could say at this stage was that he doubted if he would be able to accept the invitation. But he said that he would most willingly, and without any hesitation, do all he can to prevent the appointment of Sir Alexander Cardew, for he felt that there was an important question of principle at stake. There was a tendency, even in this country, to deny the expert the position and the responsibility of the power due to him, and he knew that in India the expert's position was a little worse.

If only a way could be suggested to him, he said he would willingly throw himself heart and soul, if only it were to vindicate the principle that he as a chemist honoured more than anything else.

Sir Walter Fletcher suggested that under the circumstances the best course for Professor Thorpe would be to get the opinion of his distinguished colleagues in science in support of the principle on which he was anxious that Sir Dorabji should take a firm stand.

Professor Thorpe agreed at once, and has undertaken to prepare a memorandum which he would circulate to his confreres in the scientific world, and whose signatures he would obtain. Men like Lord Moulton, Sir J. J. Thompson and others of equally high repute would have, he thought, no hesitation in signing such a representation in vindication of what he considered a scientific principle. With that memorandum he said Sir Dorabji could go to the Secretary of State and beseech the intervention of the Viceroy as patron to refuse his confirmation of the appointment so hurriedly and thoughtlessly made by the council of the Institute.

While he appreciated the Professor's readiness to help him to obtain the backing of scientific opinion to the contention that the head of the Institute should be a scientific man, Sir Dorabji expressed his hope that Professor Thorpe would seriously consider the offer he had made him, of taking up the Directorship of the Institute. If, he said, he was fortified with Professor Thorpe's willingness to take up the position, he could approach the Secretary of State with greater firmness, and request the Viceroy's intervention with a stronger hand. All that the Professor could say was that he would think over the offer.

After the conference, Sir Dorabji and I immediately went to the India Office, and managed to get Sir Sankaran Nair out from a Council Meeting he was attending. Sir Dorabji told Sir Sankaran all about the recent developments at the Institute, with the working of which Sir Sankaran had come in intimate contact while he held the educational portfolio at Simla and Delhi. Sir Sankaran agreed with Sir Dorabji in all that he said, and has promised all the assistance he can give, to secure the patron's intervention.

This is as far as we have been able to get in the matter, but Sir Dorabji is taking it up in right earnest, and hopes to bring about a satisfactory solution, after he sees Mr. Montagu, armed with the opinion of distinguished scientists on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

P. S.—Both Sir Walter Fletcher and Professor Thorpe gave us to understand that the number of F. R. S. chemists was certainly nearer 100 than 4—the figure given by Sir Alfred Bourne to Mr. Bhabha. At the same time, they could not help feeling that the shortage of really good men was great and that it would not be an easy thing to find a distinguished chemist to go out to India to take charge of the Institute. Professor Thorpe said that he would try his best to find a suitable man, but here again Sir Dorabji expressed his hope that Professor Thorpe himself would not disappoint him by refusing the offer he was making him. Of course, the appointment would have to be made by a special Selection Committee under clause 27 of the Scheme, but once Sir Alexander Cardew's nomination was out of the way he did not think that either that Selection Committee or the Council of the Institute would welcome any man more than Professor Thorpe himself.

BANGALORE.
29th July 1920.

DIRECTORSHIP: INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, NO. 2.

MY DEAR JIVAJI.

Since I wrote to you yesterday regarding Sir Dorabji's interviews with Sir Walter Fletcher Professor Thorpe, and Sir Sankaran Nair, on the subject of the telegrams we received from you in the matter of the appointment of Sir Alfred Bourne's successor, Sir Dorabji has received from Professor Thorpe a rough draft of the memorandum he intended to circulate among the distinguished scientists of this country for their signatures, protesting against the appointment of lay directors in scientific institutes in general, and urging the appointment of a scientific man as successor to Sir Alfred Bourne.

Professor Thorpe said that he had already interviewed Lord Moulton, the President of the Royal Society, on the subject, and while Lord Moulton agreed that there was just cause for complaint, and that the appointment of a lay director would be fatal to the progress of the Institute, he suggested that the better course was for Sir Dorabji to request Mr. Montagu to send for Professor Thorpe who, as President of the Chemical Services Committee, had gone fully into the problems of scientific organisation in India.

Professor Thorpe would then be in a position to tell him very clearly what he thought of the proposed appointment, and would satisfy Mr. Montagu on the need for seeking the intervention of the Viceroy in refusing his confirmation of the nomination made by the Coucil of the Institute.

It seems Lord Moulton felt that any action that the members of the Royal Society might take might be deemed rather uncalled for by the India Office, and though he was sure every one in the Royal Society would support the principle in issue, he would at any rate hesitate to express an opinion until he was asked.

That was what one could read between the lines of Professor Thorpe's letter.

On receipt of this letter, Sir Dorabji immediately went to see Sir William Duke, the permanent Under-Secretary at the India Office. He showed Sir William the telegrams he had received from you, and told him in so many words that if the Government of India had the future of the Institute at heart, they could do no greater service to it than stand up for the appointment of a scientific man as its head.

He told him that the Government of India failed the Institute when they appointed Sir Alfred Bourne, and though Sir Alfred certainly rendered considerable service to it, when the time came to reshape the constitution, now was the time for the Institute to be under the direction of a Chief who could enter into the scientific spirit which underlay his father's objects in endowing it.

Sir William expressed his amazement that the Council should have even thought of appointing a layman, for he agreed with all that Sir Dorabji was telling him, and with the opinions of men like Sir Walter Fletcher and Professor Thorpe.

He would at once request Mr. Montagu to give Sir Dorabji an appointment to discuss the whole situation. Mr. Brown, Mr. Montagu's Secretary, had already received copy of Professor Starling's note on the future of the Institute, and he himself agreed with everything that the Professor urged in it. This note was going to be placed before Mr. Montagu at once, and Sir William had no doubts that Mr. Montagu would consent to cable to the Viceroy his own views on the nomination made by the Council, reinforced by scientific men competent to speak on it.

While Sir Dorabji was interviewing Sir William Duke I was with Sir Sankaran Nair, trying to obtain some information from him as to what the Government of Bombay had finally done in the matter of their Medical Research Scheme. Sir Dorabji joined us, after he had seen Sir William, Duke, and told Sir Sankaran all about the talk he had had with the Permanent Under-Secretary. Sir Sankaran rather doubted if Mr. Montagu would interfere in a question which was solely within the province of the Viceroy as Patron of the Institute, to decide, but he did not doubt that, once convinced of the wrong that was being done, he would at least write privately to the Viceroy and use his influence, while conveying to him also the unanimous scientific opinion on this side.

Sir Sankaran could not help remarking that a mistake was made when Sir Alfred Bourne was appointed, which ought not to be repeated; he was even in that case convinced that the appointment was illegal, and that it was a matter of surprise to him that nobody connected with the Institute moved the Judiciary to declare it illegal. The Advocate Gengeral at Madras believed that the appointment was illegally made, and that was also the opinion of the Law Officer of the Government of Bombay, whom he had consulted. Since then, however, the constitution had undergone a change whether it was for the better or worse, he could not say, but he believed that the Hon. Mr. Sharpe would use his influence with the Viceroy in favour of Sir Alexander Cardew; if, on the other hand, however, Sir Thomas Holland was convinced that the Council were making a mistake, Sir Dorabji could find no better champion than the Member for Industries, whose opinions on Industrial and Scientific matters the Viceroy would value more than the opinions of the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India. He therefore urged Sir Dorabji to address a personal letter to the Viceroy after seeing Montagu, and adress also his request to Sir Thomas Holland, both of which Sir Dorabji will do by the mail going out this week. He will also see Sir Arthur Lawley and Sir Murray Hammick, who, however, will not receive intimation of their appointment for another couple of weeks.

In the meantime, he will do all that is possible with the help of Mr. Montagu and Sir Sankaran Nair, to secure the Patron's disallowance of the nomination made by the Council.

Yours sincerely.

P. S.—Sir Dorabji wired you on the 28th inst., in reply to your cables, as per copies herewith.

P. S. (2) Since the above was written, we have received your telegram saying that Sir Alfred Bourne had already posted particulars to Sir Murray Hammick of the India Council.

Sir William Duke suggested to Sir Dorabji that he might see Sir Murray which, however, he does not think advisable to do, till he has first seen Mr. Montagu.

Sir Sankaran Nair during the Interview told Sir Dorabji that the impression among the public that the Indian Institute of Science was almost being converted by Government into a place where jobs could be provided for their retiring officers, would only be strengthened, if the appointment of Sir Alexander did come off.

DIRECTORSHIP: INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, No. 3.

MY DEAR JIVAJI, *30th July 1920.*

In my two previous letters on this subject, I forgot to mention an important point that was raised by Sir Sankaran Nair during the interviews we had with him.

I think I told you that he believed the appointment of Sir Alexander Cardew would only serve to strengthen the opinion in the public mind that the Government of India had practically captured the Institute and were turning it into a sort of preserve into which they could pitchfork some of their retiring officers, and thus reward their long service with them. Sir Sankaran went further than this and said that the conception underlying the recent endowments of Sir Rash Behary Ghose, and Sir X. Y. Palit to the Calcutta University towards a scientific work, was one that was essentially based on the need of securing sound Indian Research workers and their teachers, so much so that the donors had made it a condition that their moneys should only be expended in an Institute the staff of which was, from the beginning to the end, purely Indian in character. These endowments, Sir Sankaran added, were to his mind a sort of counterblast to the unfortunate policy prevailing at the Indian Institute of Science where he said the public believed Indian Students were not being trained under the spirit underlying the Tata benefaction. The great point, to his mind, was the necessity of an Institute where Indian research workers could be trained later on to occupy the posts of scientific teachers in India and workers in the fields of science. This was, he maintained, Mr. Jamsetji's object, which some who were connected with the Institute, were, perhaps consciously, trying their best to subvert.

Yours sincerely,

DIRECTORSHIP: INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

LONDON, E.C. 2.

MY DEAR JIVAJI, *5th August 1920.*

As I wrote to you in a previous letter this week, Sir Dorabji has had another interview with Sir William Duke, the Permanent Under Secretary at the India Office, on the above subject. While Sir William felt that he thoroughly understood the whole position, he was afraid that in the absence of the particulars about which I wrote to you last week regarding the exact procedure involved in the selection of a Director, the India office could not very well at this stage, take any direct action. He has, however, written to Sir Murray Hammick, who is away on holiday; but Sir Murray himself, he thinks, will not be able to take any action without hearing from India, which he is not likely to for the next two weeks. He felt therefore, there was no need to write to the Viceroy at once; he suggested however, that much could be done by Sir Thomas Holland, whose opinion on the subject would carry very great weight with the patron, and he was hoping to write himself to him by this Mail. In the meantime he has suggested that Professor Thorpe could very well go on with the Representation, setting forth the views of distinguished scientists on the principle that was involved in the appointment. We have written to the Professor making the same request, but have not yet heard from him so far.

Sir William Duke wanted very much to have a full report of the proceedings of the Council meeting held on the 19th of last month. I have just cabled to you for a copy, which I shall send on to him for his and Mr. Montagu's information.

Sir Dorabji has withheld his letter to the Viceroy and to Sir Thomas pending the receipt of the scientists' representation, which he hopes Professor Thorpe will be able to let him have in the course of the next few days. His letter to them would, he feels, carry greater weight were it also supplemented by the views of scientific men on the question in issue.

In your letter dated 8th July you said that you were going to suggest to the Council that they might also appoint Sir Dorabji on the Selection Committee here. Your subsequent cables indicate that only Sir Murray Hammick and Sir Arthur Lawley have been nominated on that Committee. Sir Dorabji is rather disappointed at the way he has been left out for he would have much preferred being on the Committee himself, while he was here, and help in the selection of the right man, knowing as he does, the spirit underlying the Tata endowment to the Institute. More than that, he is particularly keen on selecting, now at least, the best scientific man who was available. He told Sir William in so many words, that he could not understand why he was left out of the Selection Committee, unless it was because the Council of the Institute, dominated by the Professors at the place, wanted still to have their own way. And though Sir William did not say much on this point, Sir Dorabji believes that he thoroughly understood the very unfortunate situation that has arisen.

We could not convey to him the precise procedure involved in the appointment of a Director in words more exact than those I have repeated to you in my previous letter. The Scheme that you are going to send will doubtless contain the exact information; in the meantime Sir William is himself searching the records of the India Office with a view to obtaining the information he wants. I am only sorry that Tata Limited, have no such information in their records.

Yours sincerely,

N. M. MUZUMDAR.

P. S. Sir William Duke also said that as the matter was being referred to Sir Murray Hammick only by post, there was no risk whatever of the Viceroy confirming any selection before Sir Dorabji's views had been brought to his notice.

NOTES OF A CONFERENCE WITH SIR WILLIAM POPE CAMBRIDGE ON SUNDAY THE 8TH AUGUST 1920.

PRESENT.

(1) Sir Dorabji Tata;
(2) Sir William Pope;
(3) The Master of Caius; and
(4) Mr. N. M. Muzumdar.

Sir Dorabji at the outset described the vicissitudes that the Indian Institute of Science had undergone, and the latest developments at it with regard to the appointment of a Director to succeed Sir Alfred Bourne. In doing so he laid great emphasis on the fact that the objects of the donor in endowing the Institute were not being fulfilled; and that he himself believed that what was wanted at the head was a strong man, with great scientific reputation behind him, to control the Institute and to direct its development. He referred especially to the fact that the income of the Institute would very shortly increase considerably; and that if the Institute was placed in capable hands he would do his best to approach possible benefactors and increase its income further still.

The Master said that they could not have as Director of the Institute a better man than a first class chemist, for he was convinced that the direction of scientific institutes was inevitably bound up with the knowledge of scientific men. Sir William Pope said that he now thoroughly understood the unfortunate situation that had arisen in Bangalore, and would be prepared to do all he could to support Sir Dorabji's contention in favour of a scientific man at its head. Only the other day he and his colleagues had impressed upon the Royal Universities Commission the necessity of putting scientific men at the head of scientific institutions, and he saw not the slightest reason why the case of Bangalore should be in any way different. He was particularly sorry to hear that private practice played such a large part in the activities of the professors at the Institute; for he did not think that scientific work of any value could possibly be done as long as scientific men worked for a consideration for the manufacturers. He was afraid it was only second rate men who went out to India, and agreed with the Master that the Institute could do no better at this stage of its development than engage the services of a first class chemist.

Sir Dorabji stated that whoever was engaged should be a man of considerable seniority and superior scientific attainments to those who were already at Bangalore. Otherwise the existing staff might create difficulties in his way.

The Master said that it would be perhaps difficult to find one of the very best men to go out; but even if we found the next best man, a strong man would take a strong line with the existing staff. They had themselves at the University very often appointed young men of attainments in responsible positions, men often junior to some of the senior men who had not the same attainments; for where scientific work was concerned it was no use putting a second rate senior man at the head, just to please his class. If a strong man was sent out,—and he had one or two in view,—he could be relied on to deal with the existing staff, who could, if they choose, leave the Institute if they felt themselves superseded; for men of the type at present working at the Institute could be found without much difficulty. He also expressed it as his opinion that the men selecting scientific men for scientific appointments, should be of scientific attainments themselves; and that that was the policy they were themselves pursuing at the Universities in appointing Selection Committees to select scientific men.

Sir William Pope agreed to write a personal letter to Sir Dorabji giving his own views on the situation that had arisen at Bangalore, in support of what he considered a very vital principle, that the head of a scientific institute should be a scientific man.

THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY,
The University Cambridge.
8th August 1920.

DEAR SIR DORAB TATA,

I have learned with grave misgiving that it is proposed to appoint a layman of high civil official position to the office of Director of the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore and hasten to send you a protest against this action which will, I am sure, be in accordance with the views and experience of most scientific men.

The Bangalore Institute was established by the munificence of your family for the purpose of developing and utilising the chemical aspects of the natural resources of India. In order to achieve this end, it is essential that the staff of the Institute should be selected from amongst the very first class of the chemical talent available and should be encouraged in every possible way to devote itself to research work and to develop initiative.

Under a lay Director, even of the best possible intentions, such an object as this is impossible of achievement; the Director, unless possessed of wide scientific knowledge and sympathies, must necessarily be a prey to any member of his staff who cares to put his own private interests before the scientific aims of the institute.

A lay Director may very probably be successful in a Civil Service Department because such an organisation has the duty of following up a course of action which is of a routine kind because indicated, in more or less detail, by some superior authority; an Institution with the aims of that at Bangalore cannot develop satisfactorily under such a Directorship because it has to provide its own initiative. It makes its own problems and solves them in its own way; for the successful achievement of this object every responsible person on the staff must be an expert in the science dealt with by the Institute.

A somewhat similar situation to this prevails in the large Natural Science Departments in this University and, before the Royal Commission now sitting here, Sir Alfred Rutherford and I have both insisted upon the absolute necessity of retaining the administration of our respective large Departments in the hands of experts if our great schools of Physics and Chemistry are to retain their positions as producers of new knowledge. When placing this view before the Commission both my colleague and I formed the opinion that the members of this very powerful body were entirely in agreement with us.

I feel strongly that your Institute at Bangalore requires as its Director the best chemist possessed of the requisite administrative powers who can be obtained; that it should pay its staff such salaries, and give them such pension advantages, as would make it derogatory for them to engage in private or consulting practice: and that it should adopt such a method of appointing its staff as would secure for its service the pick of the younger chemical profession.

If these advantages were secured I feel convinced that the Institute will render those services to the Imperial interests which you have always had in view; if they are not secured and if lay direction gains ascendancy no scientific man will anticipate other than most mediocre results from the foundation.

Believe me,
Yours very sincerely,
W. J. POPE.

Extract of a letter from London, dated 10th August 1920.

"I am enclosing for your information, notes of an interview we had with Sir William Pope on the first subject. The more we have gone into this matter the more we feel that it would be a fatal mistake at this stage in the development of the Institute to put it under the direction of a layman. Sir William was most emphatic on this point, and has written a personal letter to Sir Dorabji about it, a copy of which I am also sending for your information. There are three things in that letter on which, during the interview itself, he laid particular stress. Firstly, that the Director should be a scientific man; secondly, that the selection should be made by a scientific committee; and thirdly, that the staff of a scientific Institute should not be permitted to engage in private consulting work which does no good to the Institute. Armed with that letter, and with the views of men like Professor Thorpe, Sir Dorabji is again interviewing Sir William Duke at the India Office, and Mr. Montagu has given him his assurance that he will be only too happy to convey to the Viceroy the views of scientific men that are placed before him on the subject of the nomination at present made, and Sir Dorabji hopes that Mr. Montagu will be able to convince the Viceroy that the nomination is wrong in principle, and if confirmed will do great harm to the Institute."

Copy of a cablegram received on the 17th September 1920, addressed to Messrs. Tata Sons Ltd., Bombay, by Mr. N. M. Muzumdar, London.

Ghandy. Hammick Lawley telegraphed Bangalore inability act as Committee unless their discretion quite unfettered.—MUZUMDAR.

DIRECTORSHIP: INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

LONDON, E. C. 2.
26th August 1910.

MY DEAR JIVAJI,

I am enclosing for your information, notes of a conference we had the other day with Professor Thorpe on the situation regarding the appointment of a Director for the Indian Institute of Science. I am also enclosing copy of a letter Sir Dorabji received only yesterday from the Master of Caius, on certain suggestions made in this respect by Sir William Pope, whom we saw a few weeks ago. Curiously enough, both Professor Thorpe and Sir William Pope make pretty much the same suggestion regarding the overhauling of the whole system governing the work of the Institute. Professor

Thorpe urged that its working should be subjected to the scrutiny of a close examination by a competent commission of enquiry, and Sir William Pope also suggests that the working of the Institute should be thoroughly overhauled; and if, for the purpose, the Council approached the Cambridge University, they would doubtless be able to spare the services of Sir William himself, who could go out and deal with the matter: for they could not afford his absence from Cambridge for any length of time. These two suggestions independently made, together with the offer underlying Sir William Pope's letter, have considerably heartened Sir Dorabji, and he is going to see Sir William Duke about them next Friday.

Another very valuable suggestion made by Professor Thorpe, is that the least the Patron can do in regard to the appointment of a Director for the Institute, would be to defer making the appointment until such time as the Director-General of the proposed Government Chemical Organisation in India had been appointed and consulted with reference to it. For Bangalore would have to work in some sort of co-operation with the Government organisation. This is also a point of view which Sir Dorabji is going to urge before the Permanent Under Secretary at the India Office, who has written to him to say that there is now no risk of the appointment being rushed without the fullest consideration. I shall let you know next week the result of his interview with Sir William Duke.

Yours sincerely,
N. M. MUZUMDAR.

NOTES OF AN INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR THORPE.

22nd August 1920.

Professor Thorpe called to discuss, before he left for Cardiff this week, the progress of the settlement of the question that had arisen in regard to the appointment of the Director of the Indian Institute of Science. Sir Dorabji told him that since we had met him last with Sir Walter Fletcher, he had addressed Mr. Montagu on the subject, and had also had a number of interviews with Sir William Duke at the India Office. He had also seen Sir William Pope at Cambridge, and had communicated Sir William's views to the Permanent Under Secretary at the India Office. Further he had obtained the Regulations of the Institute in regard to the appointment of the Director. Sir William had sent them on to Sir Murray Hammick, who had expressed himself rather strongly against the manner in which he was called upon merely to register a decision arrived at Bangalore. It was perfectly clear from the Regulations that the Committee appointed here to select the Director, should, as far as possible, have at least two scientific representatives. No such Committee—was appointed and he (Sir Dorabji) doubted very much the legality of the nomination that was made. At any rate, it contravened the spirit of the Regulations, if not the exact letter of the law. It was, he gathered, Sir Alfred Chatterton who had "found" Sir Alexander Cardew; for he had himself told him that he had suggested Sir Alexander's name, in view of the difficulty that would be experienced in finding any person superior in qualifications to the present professors at the Institute. Sir Dorabji also pointed out to Professor Thorpe that Indian feeling was running high against this high-handedness and jobbery at an Institute, the possibilities of which were being not realised. And that was one of the reasons why in the recent endowments made to the Calcutta University towards its scientific works conditions were imposed by the donors ensuring the greatest possible advantage of the benefactions to Indian Students and Indian Teachers. Money had been wasted at Bangalore in bricks and mortar, and it was high time that the policy under which the Institute was at present being governed should be changed for the better. The income from the Institute was going to increase and there were possiblities of making it a really useful institution.

Professor Thorpe said that it was most unreasonable to say that men of sufficient standing were unobtainable. Did the Council of the Institute try to find them? Did they, he asked, advertise? It was absurd, he contended, to assume that no better men than the existing staff were available without, at any rate, making sufficient enquiries. He agreed with Sir William Pope that private practice was not, and should not be allowed at the Institute under any circumstances. And he agreed also that the Selection Committee in England to appoint the Director should consist of scientific men. He loathed to think that such an Institute, with such possibilities before it, should be captured by a set of people as their own private laboratory. And he wished very much that the whole working of the Institute should be subjected to a searching examination by a competent commission of enquiry. The whole system, it appeared to him, needed over hauling, and we could do no better than get a body of independent men to investigate into it.

Sir Dorabji said that if only men like Professor Thorpe, who were men of repute in this country and who were also known in India, would go out with a strong hand to take charge of the direction of the Institute, if for nothing else but as a matter of Imperial interest, they would have tremendous opportunities for pursuing their original investigations and research in the field of science in India.

Professor Thorpe said in reply, that as far as he was concerned if he went out at all the Government organisations that he himself had reported on would have, he felt, a prior claim on him. All the same, he felt that the Institute of Bengal will require to be fitted in, in some way, into that organisation.

Sir Dorabji said that if it was impossible for Professor Thorpe to go out himself, except to take charge of the proposed Government organisation, he would appreciate it a great favour if he could find out somebody who could go out to take charge of the Institute, who would work in harmony with the Government organisation and its Director-General.

Professor Thorpe said all that he could suggest at the present stage was that the appointment should be held up. He had himself written to Sir Thomas Holland saying that it was advisable that in the appointment of the Director of the Institute, the Director-General of the proposed Chemical Services in India should be consulted. The Government of India had not yet minuted on the Report of the Chemical Services Committee, but he was hoping that they would do so by October, when action would soon be taken on it.

He had not gone ahead with the memorandum of protest he had suggested at the last meeting, signed by distinguished scientists, for on re-consideration he had felt that such a representation would not carry the weight it should in official eyes. He had felt that the official world in India might only think of such a representation as the protest of an interested caste. And they might at once point to the fortunes of the Institute under Dr. Travers as a scientific Director, in reply.

Sir Dorabji said that such a representation would at least enable him to convey the views of the scientific world on such an important appointment to the Selection Committee who were going to make it. Armed with it he could approach Sir Murray Hammick and his colleague, as also the India Office, with greater firmness.

Professor Thorpe said in reply, that if Sir Dorabji thought it would be of any use to him, he would certainly get it signed by his colleagues who were meeting at the Session of the British Association at Cardiff this week. At the same time he could not help feeling that the best thing that Sir Dorabji could do under the circumstances was to go to the India Office, and urge them at least to defer making the appointment, till the proposed scientific organisation had taken shape, and till the Director-General of Chemical Services in India was appointed. That officer would be a scientific man. At any rate, that was what had been urged in his Report. And it was essential that the Head of the Chemical Services in India should have something to say in the selection of the Director of the Indian Institute of Science, who would have to work in close co-operation with the Government Scientific Organisation. That was a point, he thought, that was sure to appeal to the Viceroy, and it would be more readily appreciated by the official world any day. If Sir Alfred Bourne was to leave by October next, Dr. Sudburrough could be appointed acting Director till such time as the Director-General of Chemical Services in India had been appointed, and had been consulted on the permanent appointment to be made at Bangalore. He would further advise Sir Dorabji to urge this point of view without any delay before the India Office, and, if necessary, before the Viceroy.

HEACHAM LODGE, HEACHAM
22nd August 1920.

DEAR SIR DORABJI,

The enclosed letter from Sir William Pope has been forwarded to me here. I enclose it for your consideration. I cannot say whether the University would undertake the task he suggests assuming you wished it, but it might set Professor Pope free from his duties to visit Bangalore if you wished that—I have had no conversation with Sir William since we met him on the 8th, but I scarcely thought he would go as Director to Bangalore. He has so many important positions in England in which he is playing an active part and he is no longer young. I agree with Sir William that the young men with excellent credentials—but the first credential needed is the devotion of the man to pure science. I am sure that Pope will do all he can to help you. He has a very wide knowledge of English Chemists and a real devotion to the science of chemistry.—Moreover he was once at the head of a Chemical Institute in Manchester—He knows the dangers. * * * *

Yours very sincerely,
HUGH K. ANDERSON.

THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY,
THE UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE,
20th August 1920.

MY DEAR ANDERSON,

Since our conversation with Sir Dorabji Tata of the 8th instant I have thought a good deal about the Bangalore question.

The freedom which the University has given me in the development of our Chemical School and in the acceptance of various Imperial duties, such as service in the Chemical Warfare Department, and as President of the Chemical Society and of the Society of Chemical Industry, places me under an obligation to remain in the service of our University so long as it can employ me usefully. I could not therefore accept the very flattering proposition which Sir Dorabji Tata made that I should become a candidate for the Directorship of the Bangalore Institute.

This is probably not of much importance so far as the Bangalore Institute is concerned because there are quite a number of scientific men in the country who could fill the position very satisfactorily.

One point came out quite clearly, I think, during our conversation. This is that the Bangalore Institute is a long way off, that scientific men in England are not immediately interested in its needs, and that the provision of its personnel consequently becomes the duty of our Indian Services, which is a lay body. The slight interest taken in Indian affairs by our scientific men must lead to scientific appointments in Bangalore, and in other Asiatic institutions, being badly administered, and to people being placed in scientific posts by lay electoral bodies with the result that bad appointments are made.

Copy of D. O. dated 12th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary to His Highness.

I am submitting herewith a copy of a letter which I have addressed the Dewan enclosing copies of correspondence in regard to the Indian Institute of Science. His Highness will be pleased to see that the Government of India themselves are anxious to get our representation as early as possible, as is evident from Sir Thomas Holland's letter to Mr. Ghandy, copy of which is submitted herewith.

Copy of D. O. dated 12th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

I am submitting the Final Note on the draft representation to H. E. the Viceroy regarding the Institute of Science to-day. I have touched up the draft suitably and I think you will find it all right.

In the meantime, I have to-day received from Sir Thomas Holland a copy of his letter he has sent to Mr. Ghandy on the subject, from which you will see that they are anxious to get the representation as soon as possible. I enclose for your information, a copy of the telegram I have sent to Mr. Ghandy to-day and I would suggest that as soon as His Highness' approval to the draft is received, the Secretary may be authorized to despatch it to Mr. Barton under your signature and you may very kindly also direct that a copy of the letter be sent privately to Sir Thomas Holland for his information. I am leaving a letter to Sir Thomas Holland or you may yourself send a copy of the letter whichever course you may consider the best.

FINAL NOTE BY THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

Subject:—Draft representation in regard to the working of the Indian Institute of Science.

With reference to my discussion in Simla with Sir Thomas Holland, regarding the Institute of Science, I submit herewith a draft of a demi-official letter which it is proposed to address to Mr. Barton embodying a representation to His Excellency the Viceroy, the Patron of the Institute, suggesting to him on the grounds stated, the appointment of a Commission of Enquiry into the working of the Institute of Science. The draft fully explains the serious defects in the existing constitution and the causes for the failure in the results achieved hitherto. My notes on the discussions that I had on the subject with His Excellency the Viceroy and Sir Thomas Holland at Simla and the correspondence that I have had with Mr. Ghandy on the subject which have already been submitted for the gracious perusal of His Highness, clearly show the urgent need that has arisen for our moving in this direction. A copy of the draft letter now submitted has been sent to Mr. Ghandy who deals with this important question on behalf of the Tatas and represents them in the Indian Institute of Science, so that they may support our action by a simultaneous request on the same lines. Sir Dorab Tata has approved of the course by cable and authorized Mr. Ghandy to submit a similar representation on his behalf to the Patron. The draft demi-official letter which is agreed to by the other Members of Council may be graciously approved.

2. In this connection, I beg to suggest that as very important questions relating to the future of this institution will have to be decided by the Government of His Highness, it is desirable to appoint another representative in the place of the Dewan on the Council so that our freedom to take independent action in connection with the Institute may not be hampered by the Head of the Administration being committed to the proceedings of the Council in any way in his capacity as member. I understand that Sirdar Kantaraj Urs also feels it would be of great advantage if the Dewan is dissociated from any direct part in the work of the Institute. In his Submission Note, dated the 8th October 1920, he has remarked as follows:—

"The existing position is anomalous. The representatives of the three parties most interested in the Institute are practically in a minority and it is not possible to exercise any control over the Director or Professors. The arrangement of making the Dewan taking part on equal terms in the Council, with the Professors and others is not satisfactory and has been partly responsible for the present state of things according to which there is no means of independently reviewing the work of the Institute."

3. I beg therefore to suggest that we may take action to nominate another member as our representative in the Council of the Institute. One of the Members of the State Executive Council may represent the Government in the higher body

I am much obliged to you for your suggestions as regards the reply to Sir Alfred Bourne's letter. The course now proposed will enable me to have the matter fully considered at the next meeting and to thwart any efforts that may be made to hamper us in reforming the Institute.

Copy of letter No. 250, dated the 5th October, 1920 from the Dewan of Mysore to the Director of the Indian Institute of Science.

With reference to your demi-official letter No. 6777, dated the 2nd October 1920 forwarding for my concurrence the draft of a letter which it is proposed to issue to the Committee of Selection in England in the matter of the appointment of a Director, I write to state that the issues raised in the draft are so important that I am not prepared to commit myself thereon without further discussion in Council. I regret that your communication dated the 9th August 1920 enclosing a copy of the minutes of the last meeting of the Council could not be replied to within the appointed time as I was away on leave. It has since been brought to my notice that the resolution of the Council regarding the appointment of the Committee in England is itself not valid as the constitution of the Committee is not in accordance with bye-law No. 25 of the Scheme. The resolution relating to the appointment of a Committee of the Council to consider changes in the constitution of the Institute appears also to be *ultra vires* as no such power is conferred on the Council by bye-law 20. Having regard to the alterations proposed by Mr. Ghandy as also to the cable received from Sir A. Lawley and the other objections, I think it expedient that the entire subject should be further discussed at an extraordinary meeting of the Council before the previous resolutions are either confirmed or altered.

The administrative arrangements in connection with the Institute and the future scope and character of the work require, in my opinion, to be thoroughly examined and investigated and the measures to be adopted to achieve this object are under the active consideration of the Mysore Government. Apart from these considerations, I do not see my way on other grounds to agree to the issue of the reply now circulated.

I therefore suggest that you may kindly take steps to summon an extraordinary meeting to consider these matters on some date, say, 15th November next or thereabouts, before which I shall not be free to return to Bangalore owing to other engagements at Mysore.

Copy of D. O. dated 6th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary to His Highness.

I enclose for the gracious perusal of His Highness the reply to my letter* which I wrote to Sir Thomas Holland regarding the Institute of Science which will speak for itself.

I shall be much obliged if you will kindly return the letter in due course.

Copy of Telegram from Bombay dated 6th October 1920.

6th October 1920.

A. R. Banerji First Councillor Mysore State Bangalore. Please inform what reply diwan proposes to send to Bournes letter of second october enclosing draft to Sir Murray Hammick stop our idea is to reply that attempt to appoint a temporary director for the present be dropped until the whole constitution is revised and also policy for the future laid down by a special Committee stop please wire your views.—BHABHA and GHANDY.

Copy of Telegram to Bombay dated 7th October 1920.

Dewan's reply Bourne's Circular letter already sent declining to approve draft reply Hammick and suggesting an extraordinary meeting after 15th November. I am posting copy to you today also Sir Thomas Holland's reply to my letter of 24th September and draft representation to Patron. Please communicate early suggestions if any—BANERJI.

Copy of D. O. dated 7th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary to His Highness.

I submit herewith for the gracious perusal of His Highness, a copy of my correspondence with the Dewan, on the subject of the Institute of Science.

Copy of D. O. dated 7th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

As promised in my demi-official letter of this morning, I send herewith the draft of a letter to the Hon'ble the Resident, in regard to the Indian Institute of Science.

Copy of D. O. dated 7th October 1920, from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I am returning Sir Thomas Holland's letter to you, with many thanks. His Highness has read it with considerable interest. It is a very friendly and encouraging letter, and augurs well for the future. Sir Alexander Cardew's chances of becoming Director of the Institute seem to have all vanished into thin air, thanks to your efforts.

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*Printed on pages 6 and 7.

Do you think it possible that the authorities responsible for the staffing of Bangalore, would invite this University to enquire into the method of Government of the Indian Institute, to put forward a scheme of administration, and to suggest a method of appointment for the chief scientific officials some-what on the lines of our own almost meticulously just process of appointing University Professors? If some step of this kind were taken our University would doubtless realise that it has an important duty to perform in connection with educational work in India and elsewhere; it could provide a constitution that would possibly send some person like myself over to institute such an organisation as would make the appointment of unsuitable officials quite impossible.

I place few ideas before you with some diffidence because I realise how much work all we scientific people in Cambridge have before us. At the same time, we must attempt to assist in the vast development of scientific and technical effort which is bound to come in the East.

Our powers of rendering assistance are, I venture to think, the greater because our chemical staff in Cambridge is at present stronger than that of any University in the Empire. We need not fear that we shall enfeeble ourselves by any effort which we may make to assist Sir Dorabji Tata in consolidating the magnificent enterprise which he has undertaken at Bangalore.

Yours very truly,
W. J. POPE.

Copy of letter dated 25th September 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to Mr. J. D. Ghandy.

I am much obliged to you for your letter of the 20th September 1920 enclosing copies of all the letters, interviews and opinions which you have received from Sir Dorabji with regard to the Directorship of the Bangalore Institute. I am sending a copy of an informal letter to Sir Thomas Holland * to enable you to draft your representation also to the Gevernment of India; and I shall communicate with you again enclosing our draft of the official representation to the Patron in a day or two.

Copy of D. O. dated 25th September 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan of Mysore.

I enclose the draft of a letter * I have addressed to Sir Thomas Holland for favour of your remarks if any. I propose to draft the representation which we have to send to the Patron, for the appointment of a Committee and submit it with a Final Note for the approval of His Highness in due course. In the meantime, I thought it better to keep Sir Thomas Holland informed of the exact position through this informal communication to which I hope you will have no objection.

Might I suggest that with reference to the Director's letter communicating the draft proceedings of the last meeting, a communication may be sent by you expressing your views more in detail so that on any future occasion, it may not be alleged that the Dewan of Mysore was a party to the recent resolutions? It is clear that there has been a misunderstanding throughout and I see no harm in your saying that the matter having been carefully examined with reference to the rules and the constitution of the Council, such a resolution could not be agreed to.

Copy of D, O. dated 25th September 1920, from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

His Highness has read the enclosed letter (Sir Thomas Holland's letter) with much interest and appreciation, and has approved of it.

I shall let you have Mr. Ghandy's letter etc., back to-morrow. Many thanks for sending them also.

Copy of D. O. dated 5th October 1920, from the Dewan to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I write to acknowledge your demi-official letter of the 25th September 1920 forwarding copy of a letter addressed by you to Sir Thomas Holland regarding the Indian Institute of Science. As you had already issued the letter, I did not consider it necessary to offer any remarks on it and was awaiting the detailed communication promised by you to the Residency.

I quite agree with you that the present state of the Institute justifies our taking some immediate steps in conjunction with Sir Dorab Tata if possible, to place its affairs on a more satisfactory basis and see that its work will be of more substantial use to us in future in the development of industries and research. The present position in the Institute as you remark, is very anomalous. The representatives of the three parties most interested in the Scheme are practically in a minority on the Council and the whole situation is thus dominated by the Director and the Professorial staff. The future constitution should be such as to avoid the awkward position in which the Dewan is placed as a Member of the Council and in this way handicapped in suggesting any strong and independent action in order to safeguard the interests of the Government. It is necessary therefore that the Institute should be either placed under some strong Local Authority through which we are able to exercise an effective control over the work of the Institute, or there should be a sufficiently strong supervising body to see that the objects of the Institute are not set at naught by the manner in which the work is conducted. The system of appointing any purely administrative officer as Director of a Scientific Institute and affording opportunities to the Professors to use the Laboratories for their private investigations and exploiting the results to their personal advantage requires revision. I need not dilate on the other points. I have no doubt that you will review the subject comprehensively as a whole, and in addition to proposing the appointment of a Committee indicate the lines on which the Institute should be developed to the best advantage.

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* Printed on page 4.

Copy of letter dated 7th October 1920, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I have received your letter of the 25th September, enclosing copy of your letter to Sir Thomas Holland. I have not yet received the draft of the official representation to the Patron, which you state in your letter under reply, that you would send in day or two. Immediately I receive the draft, I will complete the representation to be made on behalf of Sir Dorabji. Herewith I send you copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Barton but which is marked "private and personal." You will please therefore consider it as strictly confidential. You will see from the letter that Simla is still bent upon appointing Sir Alexander Cardew as Director. Mr. Barton in this letter asks me to obtain Sir Dorabji's views. I am doing so. But in the mean time, I have written to him in reply copy of which I enclose herein. Please let me have a copy of your Government's representation to the Patron as early as possible.

Since writing the above I have received telegram of to day's date.

[ENCLOSURES.]

Copy of letter dated 21st September 1920, from the Hon'ble the Resident (Mr. Barton) to Mr. J. D. Ghandy.

I take the opportunity of my return to Bangalore to write at greater length in reply to your letter of the 1st September which I acknowledged from Simla.

While in Simla I discussed the question of the appointment of a Director in place of Sir Alfred Bourne with His Excellency the Viceroy and also with Sir Thomas Holland and the Hon'ble Mr. Sharp, Secretary to the Department of Education.

It has been suggested that Sir Dorab Tata's wishes in the matter would be largely met if, after a year or so, a distinguished scientist were appointed to the Institute on the understanding that at the close of the term of the appointment of Sir Alexander Cardew (three years) he should succeed the latter. It would, I think Sir Dorab Tata would agree, be an advantage to a scientist appointed direct from Europe to serve at the Institute for eighteen months or so before assuming full responsibility for its administration. He would thereby have an apportunity of acquainting himself with the Indian conditions and the problems of research in India. Perhaps you would suggest this view of the case to Sir Dorab Tata? The best selution of the difficulty would doubtless be to appoint someone like Professor Thorpe if the latter could be induced to accept the appointment, which I think we agreed at our last meeting was very unlikely. Failing this alternative I see no other way out of the difficulty except to appoint Sir Alexander Cardew and this seemed to be the opinion of people in Simla.

I also discussed the question of the future policy of the Institute and its administration. You probably know Sir Thomas Holland's views on the subject. He appears to consider that the Institute is run on unsatisfactory lines and he specially objects to the present practice under which professors and scientists are allowed to take fees for private practice. This is, I think, the opinion of most of us who are not actually on the staff of the Institute. Sir Thomas Holland seems to think that it is useless to expect Government to avail themselves of the Institute for research work purposes so long as the present practice of allowing the staff to take fees is continued. The Education Department, on the other hand, are more sympathetic and consider that the Institute should be utilised by Government to the fullest possible extent in connection with industrial and other research. His Excellency the Viceroy promised to discuss the question with Sir Thomas Holland. Perhaps you could ascertain informally what Sir Dorab Tata's views on the position are as regards future policy. I feel sure that I am speaking for the Council when I say we realise the desirability of working to the fullest possible extent in harmony with the wishes of the founder's family. I should particularly like to know what Sir Dorab's views are with regard to the future constitution of the Council. The academic element should, I think, be removed, and we want a stiffening from outside. Possibly we might have a member to be elected or nominated by the Chambers of Commerce at Bombay and Madras. I still adhere to the view that if the Institution is to have a vigorous life it must be brought closely into touch with the problems of research connected with industrial and agricultural development in Southern India, if not with India as a whole. This, to my mind, is only possible if we can induce the Governments of Bombay, Madras and, say, Hyderabad and Mysore, to utilise the Institute for the purposes of industrial research work in their territories. I do not think the question of fees need cause any serious difficulty. It has, as you are aware, been proposed that the pay of the staff should be revised and we could make it a condition of revision that in future fees should not be taken, or at all events that fees, if charged, should be funded, a portion of the amount, say one-third, being distributed proportionately among all the members of the staff. It ought, I think, to be made a condition that each professor should give a course of lectures during the year, and I would suggest further that an annual report, embodying full details of all the work done, should in future, be published. This would give the outside world some knowledge of what is being done at the Institute.

Reply to the above dated 7th October 1920.

I am obliged to you for your letter of the 21st September last. I am wiring the purport of it to Sir Dorab, and will also write to him at length on the subject. At the same time I think it right to inform you that from the communications which I have received from him, it appears that he is entirely opposed to the idea of having as a Director one who is not a scientific man; and he has been advised by most eminent men in England that it would be a mistake not to take the earliest possible opportunity for appointing a scientist as Director. If, as it seems to be the opinion of everyone,

that the government of the Institute should be in the hands of a distinguished scientist, I for myself see no reason why steps should not be taken at once to select one. Sir Dorb Tata has had frequent communication with Dr. Anderson, Master of Caius College, Sir William Pope and Professor Thorpe, and he has been given to understand that there would not be much difficulty in finding a scientist with administrative abilities to fill up the post of Director at the Institute. And the matter is much simplified by the fact that Sir Arthur Lawley and Sir Murray Hammick have refused to act as Committee unless their discretion was quite unfettered. Under these circumstances two courses seem to be open to the Council. (1) That a new Committee be appointed consisting of 2 or 3 scientists, and, if necessary, Sir, Arthur Lawley and Sir Murry Hammick can also be members of such committee. This is a suggestion which is also made by Sir Alfred Bourne in his circular letter. (2) The other alternative is to wait until an enquiry is held as hereinafter mentioned, and if Sir Alfred Bourne is desirous of vacating his post just now, to appoint in the meantime one of the professors as Acting Director,—a step which we have previously taken on one or two occasions.

With regard to the question of the future policy of the Institute you are aware that the Council at the last meeting appointed a committee to consider what variations should be made in the constitution of the Institute. The Committee has not yet met, and has done nothing. I learn from Sir Dorb that he has been given to understand that if the Chambridge University were asked to undertake a Commission of Enquiry into the administration of the Institute and its future policy, they would not be unwilling to undertake such a Commission. And it is possible that Sir William Pope himself may be appointed to undertake such an Enquiry. Sir Dorab thinks that an Enquiry by an absolutely independent body like the Cambridge University would be an useful thing. Moreover, if Sir William Pope is appointed for such Enquiry, he is so familiar with the working of similar Institutes in England that his views will be of immense benefit to the Bangalore Institute. It is Sir Dorab's intention to move the Patron to direct such an Enquiry, and his opinion is that the question of appointing a Director should be deferred until such Enquiry is held.

Copy of D. O. dated 8th October 1920, from Sir Thomas Holland to Mr. J. D. Ghandy.

I understand from Mr. A. R. Banerji, Senior Member of the Mysore Council, that the Mysore State proposes to submit an official application for a committee of enquiry into the constitution and future policy of the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore. Mr. Banerji tells me also that you, on behalf of the Tatas, will make a similar move.

2. I have spoken to His Excellency the Viceroy about this, and he authorises me to say that, in case you have decided to make an official application for a committee of enquiry, he would like it done as soon as convenient, as, otherwise, it would be difficult to hold up any nomination for a Director that may be sent in. We agree here with Mr. Banerji that the policy of the Institute, in view of its prospective increase in income, ought to be reviewed; but we do not propose to move without a definite request from you and Mysore, or, alternatively, a request from the requisite number of the Court of Visitors.

Copy forwarded for information to A. R. Banerji, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.

T. H. HOLLAND.

Copy of D. O. dated 8th October 1920, from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I am desired to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of copies of correspondence between yourself and the Dewan, on the subject of the Institute of Science, forwarded with your letter of the 7th instant.

Copy of letter from Mr. A. R. Banerji to Mr. J. D. Ghandy, dated 11th October 1920.

I write to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter dated the 7th instant enclosing copies of confidential correspondence between the Hon'ble Mr. W. P. Barton and yourself in regard to the appointment of a Director of the Institute of Science. You will have received the following telegram which I sent this morning and which I write to confirm:—

"Thanks your letter stop. Second enclosure to my letter 7th despatched to-day. Hope you received draft stop Kindly wire suggestions if any to D'Souza, I am leaving for Cannanore for a week."

As promised in the above, I send herewith copy of the Dewan's reply to Sir Alfred Bourne's Circular letter of the 2nd October.

Copy of D. O. dated 11th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

I send herewith for your information a copy of letter with its enclosures received from Mr. Ghandy, in regard to the Institute of Science.

Copy of D. O. dated 11th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary to His Highness.

I enclose herewith for the information of His Highness copy of a letter with its enclosures. received from Mr. Ghandy, in regard to the Indian Institute of Science. The correspondence speaks for itself.

and the Vice-Chancellor in the ordinary administrative body, *i.e.*, the Council, but as under the existing constitution, the Standing Committee though the higher body, is in a moribund state, it is desirable that pending revision of the constitution one of the Members of the Executive Council, preferably the one in charge of the portfolio of Education, may be the representative of the Government of His Highness on the Council. I have no objection to serve on the Council.

4. The draft letter may be graciously approved. If my suggestion to appoint another representative is approved, His. Excellency the Patron may be apprised of this decision of His Highness and steps taken to give effect to the arrangement before the Council meets again about the 22nd November next.

Bangalore,
12th October 1920.

A. R. B.

DEAR MR. BARTON,

His Highness' Durbar have for some time past been considering the question of the constitution and policy of the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore and in view of certain recent developments in the Institute, have deemed it necessary to approach the Government of India with a representation for submission to His Excellency the Viceroy who is the Patron of the Institute, suggesting the appointment of a Special Committee to enquire into the administration of the Institute and frame a report of recommendations for its future development and reform, for the Patron's consideration.

The grounds on which such action is suggested by the Durbar are as follows:—

The details of the scheme for the establishment and administration of the Indian Institute of Science were laid down in Resolution Nos. 434—448, dated the 27th May 1909 of the Government of India, (Home Department). The resolution states that "in view of the novel and experimental character of the undertaking and the uncertainties attending its working during the first few years of its existence," the administration would be provided for "by means of a scheme under the Charitable Endowments Act 1890 (VI of 1890) which was intended to deal with educational projects and which makes special provision in Section 5 (2) for the modification from time to time of any scheme settled under the Act" so that the governing body may have sufficient latitude in developing the Institute.

2. The administrative arrangements approved of by the Government of India are summarised thus in paragraph 10 of the same resolution:—

"The following is a brief outline of the administrative arrangements which are set out in schedule H of the Vesting Order made under the Charitable Endowments Act. His Excellency the Viceroy will be *ex-officio* Patron of the Institute and the Heads of local Governments of India will be Vice-Patrons. There will also be—

(*a*) A Court of Visitors on which the Government of India, the Government of Mysore and the Messrs. Tata and their heirs will each be represented by two members, the Messrs. Tata themselves being members during their lives. The Director-General of Education in India, the Directors of Public Instruction to the local Governments and the Director and the Professors of the Institute will be *ex-officio* members. The Patron may appoint six members and the Vice-Patrons one member each. The Senates of the Indian Universities may each appoint one representative and the Council may appoint as members ten representatives of Science and Learning in India. Donors of capital sums of not less than Rs. 2,00,000 and contributors of not less than Rs. 15,000 annually for five years will be entitled to nominate members of the Court.

(*b*) A Council of 12 consisting of the Director and 4 Professors of the Institute together with representatives of the Government of India, the Government of Mysore and of each of the Messrs. Tata and three nominees of the Court of Visitors.

(*c*) A Senate consisting of the Director and the Professors *ex-officio*, with power to co-opt Assistant Professors and Readers.

(*d*) A Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors consisting of four members of that body appointed by the Patron, by the Government of India, by the Government of Mysore and the Messrs Tata respectively.

The Council will be the executive body of the Institute, its proceedings being subject to review by the Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors. This Committee will have the power of reporting to the Patron on the acts or proposals of the Council and the Patron may refer such report to a special Committee and may afterwards make such order as may be necessary. The Senate will deal with all matters of an academic nature so as to reduce to a minimum discussion on purely technical matters at meetings of the Council. The administration of the endowment properties in Bombay will be in the hands of a Board of Management which will be entirely independent of the governing bodies of the Institute itself. The Board will meet in Bombay and will pay the income received from the endowment properties to the Council to which body it will also render annual accounts".

3. The resolution further states that—

"the Governor-General in Council has no desire to associate himself intimately with the actual administration of the Institute or to claim a determining voice in the settlement of the lines of research to be followed and the methods of instruction to be employed" and "the Government of

India will therefore confine themselves strictly to exercising no more than that degree of influence and control which is justified and indeed rendered obligatory by the substantial grant-in-aid which they have determined to contribute."

4. The Institute has now been in existence for more than eleven years and the original administrative arrangements sanctioned in 1909 though intended to be of a tentative character have on the whole, continued unaltered since then with the result that the Institute has shown no progressive development and is lacking in vigour owing partly to the present defective constitution under which it is not able to expand or extend its activities to meet the growing and insistent demands now audibly expressed all over India for research and scientific work. The defects in the existing constitution of the Institute have not gone unnoticed in the past as previous discussions on the subject, though fruitless, go to show. A stage has, however, now been reached which necessitates their immediate rectification.

The present constitution with a Patron, Vice-Patrons, a Court of Visitors, a Standing Committee of the Court, and a Senate, is exceedingly cumbrous and in result ineffectual. There is not sufficiently close association of the Institute with the representatives of the original donor or Governments who are participating in the scheme and as such in its development. The detached position assumed by the Government of India and the absence of a suitable controlling authority have tended to undermine its efficiency. The body in which the executive administration of the Institute is vested is the Council. It consists of 12 members. In this body, inclusive of the Director, the Professorial staff of the Institute are represented by 5 members. The Government of India, the Government of Mysore and the Tatas who have provided all the funds have only four seats between them, and the other three seats are given to the representatives of the Court of Visitors, who have no real interest in the working of the Institute, consisting as they do, of members drawn from all parts of India. The duties and relations of the Council and the Director have not been defined with clearness and precision. The Council meets ordinarily only three times a year, *viz.*, in the months of July, November and March for dealing with matters placed before it by the Director who prepares the Agenda. Owing to its unwieldy size, with such a preponderance of the Professorial element, the Council is able to exercise little effective control over the administration of the Institute. As a result, the real work of the Institute is determined by the Director and Professors of the Institute. The association of Professors, moreover, along with the representatives of the founders on an equal footing, does not conduce to satisfactory work.

5. With a view to subjecting the working of the Institute to independent periodical scrutiny, the scheme provides for the appointment of a Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors consisting of four members of whom the Chairman is nominated by the Patron and the other three consist of one representative each respectively, of the Government of India, the Mysore Government and the Tatas. The present Chairman is Sir Alexander Cardew, the Council's nominee for the future Directorship. This body is expected to review the work of the Institute at least once a year, and bring to the notice of the highest authority concerned, *i. e.*, the Patron or the Governor-General in Council defects or irregularities in the administration of the Institute, matters demanding investigation or enquiry and any excesses in expenditure. The Chairman of this body has been usually nominated from among the members of the Executive Council of the Government of Madras and the other representative of the Government of India is also an officer under the Madras Government, *viz.*, the Accountant-General, and thus the officers of the Madras Government which has no direct interest in the Institute predominate in this body. The practice having been for the Dewan of Mysore to be the representative of the Government of Mysore on the Executive Council, the condition that the members of the Court who are also members of the Council shall not be eligible to serve on the Standing Committee though it has been imposed with the obvious object of securing the independence of the members of the Standing Committee has rendered it necessary for the Government of Mysore to nominate the Vice-Chancellor of the University or other officer who is not of the highest official standing as a member of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee has also no separate official machinery. The result has been that the Standing Committee is practically a moribund institution; it seldom meets, its functions have become purely formal and there has been no occasion on which it has exercised the extraordinary functions vested in it by bye-law 35. Under these circumstances, the Council is practically the sole administrative authority; but as pointed out above, the Director and the Professors of the Institute whose work should come under review and supervision are themselves holding five seats in that body.

6. The Senate is a purely academic body responsible for the regulation of teaching and research within the Institute and though its proceedings are subject to review by the Council, such control has become altogether nominal and the choice of subjects for investigation, the training of students and the publication of results are left entirely in the hands of the Professorial staff.

7. The Government of His Highness the Maharaja have made a substantial contribution to the endowment by the grant of a free site of 371 acres, the estimated value of which will be nearly 5 lakhs, a building grant of Rs. 5 lakhs and they pay also a recurring grant of Rs. 50,000 per annum. In the Residency letter communicating the Vesting Order of the Government of India relating to the Institute, the position of the Government of Mysore as one of the original organisers of the Institute is clearly recognised. The letter says, "The Government of India have gladly co-operated with the Durbar in organising the Institute which they confidently anticipate will have far-reaching effects upon the prosperity of the people of India. I am directed to ask that you will communicate to His Highness the Maharaja their appreciation of the generosity and public spirit displayed by the Durbar in contributing towards the establishment of the Indian Institute of Science." The main object that the Durbar had in view when they made a handsome endowment for locating the Institute at Bangalore, *viz.*, that the Institute would naturally select, in the first instance, for investigation the special problems which its surroundings would offer for solution and thus research work in the Institute would be linked with the development of the various natural products of the State, has not been fulfilled. (*Vide* letter dated

the 16th November 1901 from the Secretary to Government of Mysore, printed on page 13 as schedule F of the Government of India Resolution). Beyond rendering some assistance in developing the sandalwood oil industry and carrying on a few other investigations and training some students for whom the Durbar provided scholarships, the Institute has been of little further advantage to the State. Before any results in which the Government of Mysore are interested can be tried under commercial conditions, the Professors always ask for special arrangements to be made for their remuneration. In the case of the sandalwood oil industry, two of the Chemists are now receiving a monthly remuneration from the Durbar of Rs. 250 each. When a University was established in the State, it was hoped that it might be possible to establish some connection between the University and the Institute as regards post-graduate scientific courses, but this expectation has not been realised. It is true that the Government of Mysore is represented on the Court of Visitors, in the Council and the Standing Committee, but for reasons already explained, their representatives are not in a position to take any effective action in determining the policy of the Institute or to assert the interests of the Durbar. The Government of His Highness the Maharaja, therefore, strongly feel that they should be given more effective voice in directing the work of the Institute in so far as problems in which they are interested are concerned. Apart from this aspect of the case, the view they wish to urge is that the Institute being situated in the Mysore State, cannot be effectively administered or controlled except by the local authority which is the Mysore Durbar who can be more closely and effectively associated with the Tatas with its general administration and control than the Government of India. The Chemical Services Committee have already recommended that Provincial Research Institutes should be under the administrative control of the local Governments. One reason why they did not propose to utilise the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore as the Imperial Chemical Research Institute is that it cannot be placed under the direct administrative control of the Government of India. In regard to the Bangalore Institute of Science, it is now obvious that effective Government supervision can be provided if control is vested in the Mysore Durbar in close association with the Tatas.

8. H. E. the Patron is aware that a vacancy has now arisen in the Directorship of the Institute and the selection of a suitable person has to be made by the Council after nomination by a Committee appointed in England and is subject to the approval of the Patron.

9. The procedure prescribed by bye-law 25 for the appointment of a Director and the Professors is not suitable. The method provided for selection both of the Director and of the Professors of the Institute is the same. No qualifications are prescribed for the Director. As the initiative in the matter rests with the Council which has to nominate the Committee of selection and approve of the recommendation, the tendency is to favour the appointment as Director of an Officer more on account of his administrative experience than his scientific knowledge so that the Professors may be free in the choice of their subjects and the pursuit of investigations in which they may be personally interested. Having regard to the scientific character of the work to be done in the Institute, it seems necessary to place it under the direct control of an officer who is a scientific man of established and wide reputation and who also combines with his scientific knowledge, business or administrative experience.

10. The object of the Institute is defined in the Scheme to be "to establish Chairs and Lectureships in Science and Arts especially with a view to the promotion of original investigations in all branches of knowledge and their utilisation for the benefit of India and to provide and to assist in the provision of suitable libraries, laboratories and all other necessary appliances." The definition is wide enough to include all branches of knowledge and research, but the present work of the Institute has been organised solely with a view to providing post-graduate University training in certain branches of applied science, *viz.*, Electro-Technology and Industrial Chemistry and promoting investigations into chemical problems relating to industrial developments in India. The system of post-graduate teaching provided in the Institute has not worked satisfactorily, in fact has remained undeveloped. The system of permitting the Professors to engage in private practice has been detrimental to the best interests of the Institute. The Department of Electro-Technology in spite of the personal interest and enthusiasm of the Professor in charge has not been of much use. There is a proposal to do away with it. Even in other Departments excepting the work done for the Indian Munitions Board under the pressure of the war which gave the Professors an opportunity of dealing with a large number of problems of immediate practical importance, the results have been otherwise poor. The Council of the Institute in their draft scheme referred to below now consider that the post-graduate courses should be given up and that the resources of the Institute might be more advantageously utilised in solving the technological chemical problems specially pertaining to an industrially developing India. (*Vide* page 6 of the draft scheme.) The Chemical Services Committee have also indicated that chemical research work with a view to industrial development should be the sole aim of the Institute. These are questions involving important principles, which the Durbar maintain are fit to be referred to a special committee of scientific experts competent to discuss them for opinion.

11. The scope and character of the work of the Institute will have to be greatly modified if the scheme for the organisation of an All India Chemical Service and the establishment of Central and Provincial Research Institutes recommended by the Chemical Services Committee now under the consideration of the Government of India is brought into operation. There should be a clear understanding as to the functions which the different scientific organisations should respectively exercise. The selection of subjects by the various bodies concerned, the nature of assistance to be rendered to private industrialists and Government pioneer undertakings and the method of publication of results should be defined with precision as also the manner in which the work of the Government Scientific Organisations should be co-ordinated with that of the Institute. These are also matters for investigation and consideration by an Expert Committee of the highest scientific standing as well as Industrial and Administrative experience.

12. Owing to considerable increase in the value of properties constituting the original Tata endowment, the annual income of the Institute is likely to be substantially augmented and it has

therefore become a matter of urgent importance to review the constitution and functions of the Institute and to define its future policy so that this income may be utilised to the greatest advantage.

13. The representatives of the three parties most interested in the Institute, *viz.*, the Government of India, the Government of Mysore and the Tatas have all along felt the unsuitability of the existing constitution. In the year 1912, they seem to have decided to recommend to the Government of India, certain changes in the constitution, but no action was taken as the Committee then appointed confined itself to the investigation of the serious irregularities that had occured in the administration of the Institute. In the draft scheme which was prepared by the Committee of the Executive Council of the Institute in 1918 for revising the constitution, the necessity for a much simpler constitution, which is also recommended by the Chemical Services Committee, has been recognised.

14. The question of revising the constitution of the Indian Institute of Science and its future development has been engaging the attention of the Executive Council of the Indian Institute of Science since November 1918, but for reasons to be more fully explained later on, such a duty is outside the province of that body. The Council appointed a Committee to draw up a report on the subject in the year 1918, and at a meeting held on the 17th March 1919, the confidential report of this committee was discussed by the Council and subsequently a resolution was recorded that the Government of India be addressed by the Council and the Director was requested to prepare a draft based on the views expressed at the meeting. A reference to paragraph 48 of the Chemical Services Committee Report will show that the proposals of the Council of the Institute with reference to its future developments were forwarded by the Government of India to this Committee for consideration. This Committee after making some observations left it to the Council of that Institute to formulate after perusal of the Committee's report such further proposals as may seem requisite. The consideration of the constitution, however, is not a matter which comes within the purview of the Council as this is not contained in clause 20 of the scheme and the action taken by the Council is therefore not included within its legitimate functions. The body that should have moved in this direction is the Standing Committee which has the power to report to the Patron any matter in connection with the Institute that requires investigation or enquiry and to request him to appoint a Special Committee for the purpose. Moreover, as represented above, the Professors in the service of the Institute form practically a majority in the Council as at present constituted and apart from the technical objection that the scheme of management does not empower the Council itself to discuss the constitution and other matters for the future administration of the Institute, it is obviously undesirable that the Council, as at present constituted, should sit and frame a constitution for the consideration of the Government of India.

15. Again, at a meeting held on the 19th July 1920, the Council passed the following resolution "that before dealing with the important question of future policy, it is desirable to consider what changes, if any, in the constitution should be recommended to Sir Dorab Tata and the Government of India and that a Committee consisting of the Hon'ble the Resident, the Dewan of Mysore, Mr. Bhabha, Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell and the Director be appointed for the purpose." This resolution again, deals with a matter which is outside the functions of the Executive Council and moreover, the Durbar of Mysore as one of the three principal parties interested in the Institute, should have a determining voice with the other two, and not merely an advisory position in the Committee as now proposed by the Council. As the Council is now constituted, it is not possible, as already stated, for the Dewan to take any active part in its proceedings and the question of a more effective representation of interests has been taken up separately by the Durbar for consideration. When the minutes of the meeting came up for confirmation before the Dewan, it was found on examining the regulations and rules, that the proceedings were in many respects irregular and in view of the important issues involved, the Director has been requested to bring up the entire subject for reconsideration at the next meeting.

16. The question of the appointment of a new Director owing to the expiry of the term of office of Sir Alfred Bourne, taken up at the last meeting of the Council has given rise to a novel and a difficult situation. The appointment has to be made on the recommendation of the Committee to be nominated by the Council in England. The Council at its last meeting appointed Sir Arthur Lawley and Sir Murray Hammick to be members of this Committee, but these gentlemen, the Durbar understand, have declined to act as the terms of reference left no option to them, but to approve of the nominee of the Council as the Director and they have very rightly claimed that their discretion should not be fettered in any way. The constitution of the Committee in England has also, the Durbar understand, been objected to by Sir Dorab Tata on the ground that the condition of bye-law 25 which requires that two members of the Committee shall whenever practicable be representatives of a Branch of Learning, has not been complied with and he feels that the present move to appoint a Civilian Officer is calculated to hamper the future development of the Institute as it needs at the present moment at its head a man with a strong scientific reputation behind him to control the Institute and direct its further development.

17. The foregoing facts render it clear that the position of the affairs in the Indian Institute of Science, justifies at this juncture, the intervention of His Excellency the Viceroy as its Patron and the appointment of a Special Commission of enquiry to examine the working of the Institute and its methods of government and to indicate its future policy and constitution and the lines of work that it may usefully undertake in the development of research and the application of science to industries in India in general and Mysore in particular. The problems raised are of vast scientific and economic importance. The Commission should therefore, in the opinion of the Durbar, consist of scientific and business men of worldwide reputation competent to deal with the subject in its broadest aspects, and the Chairman and some of the members should be chosen, if possible, from the leading scientific men in the United Kingdom.

18. Under bye-law 34 of the Scheme, His Excellency the Viceroy has the power to direct on his own initiative, the appointment of a Committee from among the members of the Court of Visitors to enquire into any matter relating to the Institute or refer it to the Royal Society for opinion. As the Court of Visitors consists of men mostly with Indian experience, it is not desirable for reasons explained in the previous paragraph thus to limit the membership of the Commission. Considerable local enquiry and investigation would be necessary before the Commission could submit its recommendations. The services of the Royal Society can, therefore, be utilised only in securing their co-operation in selecting the most suitable men to undertake the enquiry. There is, however, no restriction as to the personnel of the Committee appointed under bye-law 35 which, however, requires an application from the Standing Committee. If the technical objection to the appointment by His Excellency the Viceroy on his own initiative of a Committee, the majority of whom are experts from outside, is held to prevail, it may be easily overcome by obtaining a formal requisition from the Standing Committee, consisting of the representatives of the Durbar and the Tatas; the other two representatives being the nominees of the Government of India. If necessary, action may, in the alternative be taken under the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 which gives power to Government of India to sanction an alteration of the Scheme. However appointed, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja desires to urge that the Commission should contain both men of Scientific eminence and business experience and the members should have sufficient standing to be able to deal authoritatively with matters of such fundamental importance. In view of their own interest, in the future development and work of the Institute, the Durbar consider that they should be allowed to nominate a representative on the Commission and that in any case that they should have the opportunity of placing their views on any scheme of reorganisation, before His Excellency the Viceroy passes final orders.

19. The reference to the Commission of Enquiry, the Durbar, beg to suggest, may include among others, the following :—

(*a*) The working of the existing methods of government in the Institute and any revision needed in its constitution.

(*b*) The policy to be followed in future and the lines of work to be undertaken in the Institute in the development of research and application of science to industries.

(*c*) The manner of the connection of the Institute's association with the Governments or Administrations who are interested as participators in the scheme of endowment in the development of resources of the country and its relation to and co-ordination with Government and other Scientific Organisations in India and the United Kingdom engaged in similar work.

(*d*) The nature of the control to be exercised respectively, by the principal contributories to the endowment, *viz.*, the Government of India, the Government of Mysore, and the Tatas and the assistance to be rendered to the Mysore State in dealing with problems in which they are specially interested, under which head the suggestion to vest in close connection with the Tatas, the control wholly or for the most part in the local authority, which in the present case is the Mysore Durbar, may be considered.

(*e*) The powers and duties of the Director and the Professorial staff, their relations to the various government bodies of the Institute and the methods of selection and conditions of appointment.

(*f*) Any other matter of fundamental importance relating to the future development of the Institute.

I am also to suggest that the cost of the Commission may be defrayed from the endowment.

I shall feel extremely obliged if you will kindly forward the above representation to the Government of India for submission to His Excellency the Patron, at any early date.

Yours sincerely,
M. KANTARAJ URS,
Dewan of Mysore.

Copy of D. O. dated 12th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to Sir Thomas Holland.

I am extremely obliged to you for your letter of the 1st of October 1920 which I submitted to His Highness and His Highness was very pleased to see that you have taken such kindly interest in the matter and he desires me to thank you for the same.

In the meantime, I beg to enclose for your private information a letter which I got the Dewan to send to Sir Alfred Bourne in reply to a communication received from him requesting his concurrence in respect of a draft letter to Sir Arthur Lawley and Sir Murray Hammick regarding the appointment of a Director. It has now been decided as a result of this communication from the Dewan, to hold a meeting about the 22nd of November to discuss and review the whole question.

Our formal representation to His Excellency the Patron has been drawn up after taking Messrs. Ghandy and Bhabha into confidence and has been forwarded to the Hon'ble Mr. Barton for submission as early as possible. Mr. Ghandy has also received official authorization by cable from Sir Dorab Tata to submit a similar representation simultaneously with us and I daresay you will receive the same on or about the same time. I take the liberty, however, with His Highness' approval to enclose for your private information, a copy of the letter whith has been addressed to Mr. Barton.

I am extremely obliged to you for having sent me for information your letter of the 8th October to Mr. Ghandy on the same subject and might I point out as stated in our official representation that the request for a Special Committee has, in the alternative, to come from the Standing Committee? Perhaps, you are aware that Sir Alexander Cardew himself is the President and the other members are, the Vice-Chancellor of the Mysore University, the Accountant-General of Madras and Mr. Padshah. We hope, however, that as His Excellency the Viceroy can, on his own initiative appoint a Committee, the representations from the Mysore Durbar as well as the Tatas will afford sufficient justification for His Excellency to move in the matter.

Copy of Telegram to J. D. Ghandy, Esq., Bombay, dated 12th October 1920.

Sir Thomas Holland sent me copy of his letter to you dated 8th instant. Stop. Our draft representation with slight verbal alterations gone through council being submitted His Highness formal approval stop. Leaving instructions despatch immediately to Resident stop. Sending copy privately direct to Sir Thomas Holland if you have no material suggestions to offer stop. Kindly wire reply Desouza Secretary BANERJI.

SUBMITTED TO HIS HIGHNESS.

I submit herewith a Final Note by the First Member of Council regarding the Indian Institute of Science. Since assuming charge of the Dewan's Office, I have attended two meetings of the Council and felt that the existing arrangements are most unsatisfactory and required immediate attention. In the matter of appointments, etc., the representative of the Government is practically impotent, as the subjects to be placed before the Council and the preparation of the Agenda are left entirely to the Director of the Institute who has already come to some definite conclusion with the Professors of whom there is a large number in the Council, and as a rule, the other European representatives on the Council seldom differ from the authorities of the Institute. It is not possible for a single representative of the Mysore Government on the Council to do anything except acquiesce in most of the decisions if he is not to be obstructive. The Dewan's presence on the Council moreover, handicaps him if he is to propose any independent action being taken for improving the affairs of the Institute.

2. With the object of putting an end to these anomalies, as soon as the last Council meeting was over, I asked the Secretary to Government, Departments of Education and Agriculture, to prepare a detailed note on the subject and the matter has since been fully worked up by that officer under the personal instructions of Mr. Banerji and myself. I agree with the First Member in the suggestion that it is not desirable for the head of the administration in the State to be in any way directly connected with the working of the Institute. In all important matters, the Government representative should obtain instructions from the Government and this is not possible if the highest officer of the State holds this position. Having regard to the large interests that the Government of His Highness the Maharaja has in the Institute, arrangements should also be made by getting periodical reports from the Government representative on the Standing Committee and the Council, to get information regularly about the working of the Institute and for Government to be in touch with the work of the Institute and the Dewan as the Executive Head of the Administration, should be free to advise His Highness from time to time as to the measures to be adopted to see that the work of the Institute is not carried on in a manner so as to defeat its original object and its special obligations to the Mysore State.

3. The proposal to appoint the First Member of Council as the representative of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja on the Executive Council of the Indian Institute of Science may be approved and the fact at once intimated to the Director and the Residency. We need not concern ourselves for the present with any changes in the constitution of the Standing Committee as that body at present has become more or less effete and certain radical reforms in the constitution are very necessary, and when these are carried out, the Member of Council may represent Government in the higher body and the Vice-Chancellor or other nominee of Government in the lower body. I shall not indicate in detail now any changes in the constitution that may be required as this is a matter which may be considered as soon as the Commission to be appointed has its report ready.

As a scientific body, the Institute has to be given a large measure of independence, but the question how to reconcile this with the maintenance of sufficient control in some independent authority so that the Institute may not break away from all responsibility or control, as has happened at present, is a very important one, on the proper solution of which the future usefulness of the Institute greatly depends.

Whatever constitution is finally adopted, the principle we should keep in view is that we should have a determining voice in the work of the Institute in close association with the Tatas, that our representatives should report to the Government and keep them informed of the work of the Institute, and obtain instructions from the Government whenever any important questions of principle or policy are to be settled, and that the work of the Institute should be kept under constant review not only by our representatives, but also by the Government and we should have the power to move the highest authority concerned to interfere whenever matters are likely to go wrong.

4. The draft demi-official letter to the Residency may be graciously approved, and also the changes in the Council suggested above.

13th October 1920. M. KANTARAJ URS.

Copy of D. O. dated 16th October 1920, from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I am desired to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of a copy of a letter which you have addressed to the Dewan, with its enclosure, on the subject of the Indian Institute of Science, sent with your letter of the 12th October.

Copy of D. O. dated 16th October 1920, from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

Thanks for the copy of Mr. Ghandy's letter to you in regard to the Indian Institute of Science. I have duly submitted it to His Highness.

Copy of D. O. dated 16th October 1920, from the Dewan to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

His Highness having approved of the demi-official letter proposed to be issued to the Indian Institute of Science, I have despatched it from here. His Highness has also approved of your being appointed as the representative of the Government of Mysore on the Executive Council. I enclose herewith copy of a letter I have written to Mr. Barton on the subject.

Mr. Ghandy wanted some changes to be made but these came to my notice only after the letter was despatched. He can urge them in the communication which the Tatas propose to send.

I hope you are having a restful and pleasant holiday.

Copy of D. O. No. 288, dated 16th October 1920, from the Dewan to the Hon'ble the Resident.

In continuation of my demi-official letter Camp No. "A" dated the 14th October 1920, regarding the Indian Institute of Science. I write to state that, in view of the large number of important questions likely to arise for settlement in connection with the Indian Institute of Science, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja consider it desirable that the Dewan as the Executive Head of the Administration should be free to bring to bear an unbiassed and independent judgment on such questions and that he should not therefore be directly associated with the administration of the Institute. They have therefore decided to appoint as their representative on the Executive Council of the Indian Institute of Science one of the Members of Council, and His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Mr. A. R. Banerji, C.I.E. First Member of Council, as Member of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science in the place of the Dewan. I shall be greatly obliged by your kindly intimating this appointment to the Patron and the Director of the Indian Institute of Science and causing all further and necessary action being taken to give effect to the appointment.

Copy of D. O. No. 1—10 (T) dated 21st October 1920, from Sir Thomas Holland to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I have now received your demi-official letter of the 12th instant, and a copy of the official letter from the Durbar to the Resident, proposing the appointment of a Committee or Commission of Enquiry into the constitution and policy of the Indian Institute of Science. Your courtesy in letting me see a copy of your official letter will enable us to investigate at once the points raised, and we shall, thus, be in a position, I hope, to act more promptly when we receive the promised official representation from the Tatas. The views of the Resident will also be valuable, as, apart from his official connection with the Institute, I know that Mr. Barton takes a keen personal interest in the questions that have been raised.

Copy of letter dated 21st October 1920, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I have received the final copy of the representation of the Mysore Durbar from Mr. D'Souza. I herewith send you a copy of the representation I have made to His Excellency the Viceroy on behalf of Sir Dorab Tata. I note that in your representation references to a larger control by the Mysore Government over the affairs of the Institute are made. How far such control is advisable I am not prepared to say. I have not referred to these matters in my representation, and I guard myself against it being said hereafter that, though you had sent me a copy of the representation and I had not objected to it, therefore I must be supposed to have agreed to it. At present, all that I say is that neither Sir Dorab nor I have considered this matter, and having had an opportunity of perusing your representation must not be construed as an agreement to every part of it.

Copy of the letter dated 21st October 1920 from J. D. Ghandy, Esq., Constituted Attorney of Sir Dorab Tata to the Secretary to Government, Education Department, Simla.

On behalf of Sir D. J. Tata and as his constituted attorney and under his express instructions I have the honour to submit the following representation to His Excellency the Viceroy as Patron of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

1. The object of the representation is to suggest to His Excellency the appointment of a Special Committee to enquire into the present working of the Institute, to suggest changes in its constitution and to frame recommendations with regard to the future policy of the Institute.

2. The Indian Institute of Science owes its origin to the genius and munificence of Sir Dorab's father, the late Mr. J. N. Tata, who so far back as the year 1896 proposed to vest in Trustees properties to the capital value of Rs. 30 lakhs for the purpose of endowing a research Institute for India. He appointed a provisional Committee to advise him on the subject consisting of the most eminent men in Bombay including:—

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ranade;
,, ,, Sir Phirozesha M. Mehta;
,, ,, ,, Bhalchandra Krishna;
,, ,, Mr. Justice Budruddin Tyebjee;
,, ,, ,, R. M. Sayani; and others.

The Chairman of the Committee was the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bombay. After consulting leading authorities both in England and in India, and with the assistance of the above-mentioned provisional committee Mr. Tata drew up a scheme for a teaching University and embodied the same in a draft bill. The same was laid before Lord Curzon on the 31st December 1898, the day after he arrived in India, by a deputation from the Provisional Committee. In the following year a scheme was formally brought to the notice of the Government, who expressed their readiness to proceed with legislation as soon as the scheme was matured.

3. In the course of years 1900-01 Mr. Tata's proposals were examined and reported upon by Sir William Ramsay, who visited India at the invitation of Mr. Tata's Committee, and subsequently by Prof. Orme Masson and Col. Clibborn who were placed on deputation for the purpose by the Government of India. In the meantime the Government of Mysore had offered through the late Sir Seshadri Iyer to place a site of 371 acres in Bangalore at the disposal of the future Governing Body of the Institute and to contribute a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs towards the initial expenses. Shortly after the publication of Prof. Orme Masson and Col. Clibborn's report the Government of His Highness the Maharala of Mysore informed the Provisional Committee that they proposed to make an annual contribution to the Institution of Rs 30,000 for ten years and at a later date decided to increase the subsidy to Rs. 50,000 without limit of time. The Government of India agreed to supplement the income for the time being of the said Institute by an annual grant to be made by their Government equivalent to one equal half of the income of the said Institute from time to time derived from local assets as defined in para 5 of their letter No. 156, dated 28th February 1905 to the Government of Bombay, but so that the total amount of such grant should not at any time exceed Rs. 1,50,000, and also to make a grant of Rs. 2,50,000 towards the construction of the necessary buildings and other initial expenditure required for the purpose of the said Institute. As an agreement has been arrived upon all questions relating to the organisation of the Institute and to the management of the endowment properties, it appeared as if the Institute could be brought into existence without further delay, when on the 19th May of 1904 Mr. J. N. Tata died while on a visit to Europe.

4. Though the death of Mr. Tata deprived the Institute of the benefit of the wisdom and experience of its founder, it did not result in more than temporary delay in carrying out the scheme. For, in a letter addressed to the Government of India Sir D. J. Tata and Sir Ratan Tata at once announced their intention of giving effect to their late father's wishes. The idea of embodying the Scheme in a legislative enactment was dropped, and the administration was provided for by means of a Scheme under the Charitable Endowment Act of 1890 (VI of 1890). The reasons given for this change are set out in the Government Resolution Nos. 434-448. dated 27th May 1909 of the Government of India, Home Department,—"that in view of the novel and experimental character of the undertaking and the uncertainties attending its working during the first few years of its existence", the administration will be provided for "by means of a scheme under the Charitable Endowment Act of 1890 (VI of 1890)—which was intended to deal with Educational progress and which makes special provision in Section 5 (2) for the modification from time to time of any scheme settled under the Act." On an application by Sir D. J. Tata and Sir Ratan Tata as sons and executors and residuary legatees of their father a Vesting Order was passed by the Government of India in pursuance of and by virtue of Sections IV and VII of the Charitable Endowments Act of

1890, by which His Excellency the Governor-General of India in Council ordered that the properties set apart by Mr. J. N. Tata for the purposes of the Scheme be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments for the territories subject to the Government of Bombay upon the following terms, that is to say, that the lands granted by the Government of Mysore shall be used for the erection of buildings of the said Institute (intended to be called and known by the name of the Indian Institute of Science) and the said lands and buildings shall be appropriated and occupied in perpetuity for the purposes of the said Institute. That the sum of Rs. 5 lakhs given by the Government of Mysore and the sum of Rs. 2,50,000 given by the Government of India shall be expended towards construction and erection of the buildings of the said Institute and towards other initial expenses of the said Institute. And that the balance of the funds in the hands of the provisional committee, the annual grant of Rs. 50,000 by the Government of Mysore and such grants as may be annually made by the Government of India and also the income of the immoveable properties in Bombay set aside by Mr. J. N. Tata for the purpose shall be collected and received by the persons appointed for the purpose under the Scheme settled under Sections V and VII of the said Act to be by them applied in the manner set forth in the said scheme. The scheme finally settled is the enactment marked with the letter H in the Vesting Order and is the scheme under which the Institute is now administered.

5. Besides the sums of Rs. 2,50,000 and Rs. 5,00,000 granted by the Government of India and the Mysore Durbar respectively for the construction of buildings and initial expenses, the accumulated income of the properties in Bombay set aside by Mr. Tata long before the Scheme was framed were used for the same purpose. The Institute was opened and the first students were admitted to the departments of General Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Electro-technics on the 24th July 1911 and the department of Organic Chemistry was opened in September of that year.

6. The Scheme provides that the object of the Institute shall be "to establish chairs and lectureships in Science and Arts especially with a view to the promotion of original investigations in all branches of knowledge and their utilisation for the benefit of India and to provide and assist in the provision of suitable libraries, laboratories and all other necessary appliances. The management of the Institute under the Scheme is vested in (*a*) A Patron and Vice-Patrons; (*b*) A Court of Visitors; (*c*) A Council; (*d*) A Senate. His Excellency the Viceroy of India for the time being is the *ex-officio* Patron of the Institute. The heads of the local Governments in India for the time being are the *ex-officio* Vice-patrons of the Institute. The Court of Visitors is composed of representatives of the Government of India, the Government of Mysore, Sir D. J. Tata, Sir Ratan Tata and their nominees and nominees of their heirs, the Director-General of Education in India, the Directors of Public Instruction to the Local Governments and the Director and Professors of the Institute are to be *ex-officio* members. The Patron may appoint six members, and the Vice-Patron one each. The Senates of the Indian Universities may each appoint one representative and the Council may appoint as members ten representatives of Science and learning in India. Donors of capital sums of not less than Rs. 2 lakhs and Contributors of not less than Rs. 15,000 annually for 5 years are entitled to nominate members of the Court.

7. The Council is composed of 12 persons as follows:—

1. The Director, *ex-officio*;
2. The Professors of the Institute, not exceeding 4 in number nominated by the Senate;
3. One representative of the Government of India;
4. Do do Mysore;
5. Do Sir D. J. Tata and His heirs;
6. Do Sir Ratan Tata do
7. Three nominees of the Court of Visitors;

8. The Senate consists of the Director as Chairman, the professors and such assistant professors and readers as the Council acting on the recommendation of the Senate may appoint.

9. The Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors consists of 4 members of that body, appointed by the Patron, by the Government of India, by the Government of Mysore and by the Tatas respectively.

10. Under the Scheme no power of control is vested in the Patron, and the same is confined to directing enquiries either on his own initiative or on the recommendation of 5 members of the Court of Visitors or on the recommendation of the Standing Committee. As stated in one of the Government resolutions "the Governor-General-in-Council has no desire to associate himself intimately with the actual administration of the Institute or to claim a determining voice in the settlement of the lines of research to be followed and the methods of instruction to be employed" and "Government of India will therefore confine themselves to strictly exercising no more than that degree of influence and control which is justified and indeed rendered obligatory by the substantial grant-in-aid which they have determined to contribute".

11. Under the scheme, powers are vested in the Standing Committee by which they can make themselves familiar with the working of the Institute, and regulate all extraordinary expenditure. The Standing Committee have power to communicate directly with the Patron and have power to report to the Patron on matters which require investigation or enquiry. Each member of the Standing Committee being a Member of the Court of Visitors is also supplied every year with the annual report which includes—

(*a*) an account of the working of the Institute for the previous session;
(*b*) an audited balance-sheet showing the income and expenditure for the previous session;
(*c*) A budgeted estimate for the current session;
(*d*) A copy of the report submitted by the Board of Management.

Though the Standing Committee have powers under which they could exercise influence on the administration of the Institute, bring irregularities to the notice of the Patron, recommend to him the enquiries on matters which require investigation, they have, during the existence of the Institute in the last eleven years, met only very few times and during the last four or five years have not met at all. Unfortunately, no provision is made in the Scheme for providing the Standing Committee with any machinery by which their meeting could be called and matters could be brought before them for deliberation.

12. Under the constitution as above described the Institute has not worked efficiently, and the great hopes entertained by the Founder have not been realised. Under the Scheme no power of control or direction is vested in the Patron. The members of the Court of Visitors have never visited the Institute, except perhaps one or two, notwithstanding the fact that the Council has every year set aside a sum of money for the expenses of the members of the Court who would desire to visit the Institute. Though the Standing Committee has large powers of review it has failed to exercise that power, and during the last three or four years it has never met. The whole administration of the Institute is practically vested in the Council. All the members of the Council besides the professors being laymen, the courses of study and research within the Institute are entirely regulated by the Professors.

13. The first point to which Sir Dorab Tata would most respectfully lay tress is that the constitution needs revision. The presence of so many as four professors within the Council leaves the entire control of the courses of study and research in their hands. Sir Dorab would suggest an enquiry as to whether professors should be members of the Governing Body of the Institute. The courses of study and research are formulated by the Senate which is composed of the Director as Chairman and professors and assistant professors as members, and unless the Director is a distinguished scientific man, his presence as Chairman on the Senate would be ineffectual.

14. The Council itself has felt the necessity of a revision of the constitution and on one or two occasions appointed committees to formulate proposals with regard to it. At a meeting held on 19th July 1920 the Council passed the following resolution :—

> "That before dealing with the important question of future policy it is desirable to consider what changes, if any, in the constitution should be recommended to Sir Dorab Tata and to the Government of India, and that a committee consisting of the Hon'ble the Resident, the Dewan of Mysore, Mr. Bhabha, Mr. Campbell and the Director be appointed for the purpose".

The reason why it was provided in the resolution that the changes in the constitution should be referred to Sir Dorab Tata was that it is provided under Regulation 44 of the Scheme that none of the provisions of the Scheme would at any time be added to, altered or varied during the lives of Sir Dorab and Sir Ratan Tata, without their consent or during the life of the survivor of them, without his consent. As Sir Ratan Tata is dead, the only person to whom reference with regard to the changes in the constitution could be made is Sir Dorab Tata.

15. As Sir Alfred Bourne, the present Director, will soon vacate his office, the Council at its meeting held on 19th July 1920 considered the question of appointment of a successor. The Council by a majority resolved, Mr. Bhabha and Mr. Ghandy the nominees of the Tatas dissenting, that Sir Alexander Cardew be appointed Director, and they proceeded to appoint Sir Arthur Lawley and Sir Murray Hammick as members of the Committee in England under Regulation 25 of the Scheme with practically a mandate to them to appoint Sir Alexander Cardew as Director. The ground upon which the nominees of the Tatas objected to the appointment of Sir Alexander Cardew was that in their opinion the Director should be a distinguished scientist with knowledge of business affairs. Under a lay Director even with the best possible intentions the object of the Institute cannot be achieved. The Director unless he is possessed of wide scientific knowledge and sympathy must necessarily be a prey to any member of the staff who cares to put his own private interests before the scientific aims of the Institute. The lay Director may very probably be successful in a Civil Service Department, because such an organisation has the duty of following up the course of action which is of a routine kind because indicated in more or less detail by some superior authority. An institution with the aims of that of the Bangalore Institute cannot develop satisfactorily under such a directorship, because it has to provide its own initiative; it makes its own problems and solves them in its own way. For the successful achievement of this object every responsible person in the staff must be an expert in the Science dealt with by the Institute. The appointment of a great scientist as Director is now all the more necessary, as, according to the Report of the Chemical Services Committee, the Institute is to retain its unofficial character.

16. Another matter which is almost becoming a scandal is the habit of the Professors to engage in private practice. Sir Dorab Tata had interviews with eminent scientists in England, and they expressed their opinion that they loathed that such an Institute with such possibilities before it should be captured by a set of people as their own private laboratory, and they suggested that the whole working of the Institute should be subjected to a searching examination by a Commission of Enquiry. The whole system, it appeared to them, needed overhauling.

17. Though the Chemical Services Committee has not thought it advisable that the Bangalore Institute should be made a part of the whole scientific service organisation, and it is to retain its unofficial character, still it will be necessary to define the part the Institute has to play in the whole organisation, if for no other reason than to prevent overlapping. It would, it is submitted, be a waste of money to have several provincial institutes in Southern India, when there is already an Institute with fully equipped laboratories to solve the very same problems which the Provincial Institutes will have to solve.

18. The Treasurer of Charitable Endowments in whom the properties are vested has on the recommendation of the Board of Management sold three of the properties, investing the proceeds in Government Securities. This will increase the income of the Institute, coupled with the proportionate increase of the Government Grant by nearly Rs. 2 lakhs. If the other properties are sold and the proceeds invested in Government securities, there will be still larger increase of income. But it would be useless to add to the income of the Institute unless its future policy is clearly laid down after carefully inquiring into its affairs. The Board of Management are quite prepared to recommend that the other properties be sold if they are assured that the income will be properly utilised by the establishment of new chairs for carrying out the objects of the Institute. This is an inquiry which can be properly carried out by a Committee composed, if not wholly, mainly of scientific men. Sir Dorab Tata in England has been assured, and I have his express authority for saying so, that if such an enquiry is entrusted to the Cambridge University, they will willingly undertake it, and it is quite possible that Sir William Pope a distinguished scientist, may be sent out to undertake such an inquiry.

19. It is submitted that it is necessary that if an Enquiry is to be held, it must be held by most distinguished men in Science and men of world-wide reputation. Under Regulation 44 of the Scheme, the Enquiry can only be submitted to a Committee appointed from among the members of the Court of Visitors, or the matter to be inquired into be referred to the Royal Society for their opinion or the matter be referred to the Council for their opinion. If it is held that the Regulation 34 only refers to Enquiry on special matters and not an Enquiry into the whole affairs of the Institute as contemplated by this representation, and it is also held under the same regulation that the Enquiry shall only be made by a Committee of the Court of Visitors or by the Royal Society or by the Council, then it is submitted that the Enquiry may he directed under Regulation 35 in which there is no restriction as to the personnel of the Committee. Under Regulation 35 special Enquiry can only be directed on the recommendation of the Standing Committee. As far as Sir Dorab Tata is concerned, he is prepared to waive as far as he may any technical objection to an enquiry being made by the Patron on his own initative.

20. The Enquiry will be into the whole affairs of the Institute, and its working, and the Commission may specially report upon :—

(*a*) What changes, if any, are necessary in the constitution of the Institute to secure better government for the future; what should be the composition of its Governing Body; who are to be the members of such body, and whether the Professors should be members of that body·

(*b*) Whether Professors should be allowed to engage in private practice;

(*c*) What is to be the future policy of the Institute, whether it should confine itself to those problems which bear on industries only or whether investigations in pure science should also be a part of its functions;

(*d*) Whether and how far the Institute should be co-ordinated with the Chemical Services Organisation;

(*e*) Whether the Institute should retain its unofficial character or whether it should be subjected to some control of Government or of the Imperial Institute of Science; and

(*f*) Any other matter of fundamental importance relating to the future development of the Institute.

21. I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to submit the above representation to His Excellency the Viceroy as Patron of the Institute.

DRAFT FINAL NOTE.

I beg to submit herewith for favour of perusal a letter I have received from Mr. J. D. Ghandy enclosing copy of a letter addressed by him to the Government of India on the subject of the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the future working of the Indian Institute of Science. The Tatas have supported us in the request for the appointment of a Commission though naturally they do not wish to commit themselves at this stage to allow us more control over the Institute. This is a matter to be more fully discussed and considered after the Commission is appointed. No further action is necessary on Mr. Ghandy's letter at present as we have to await the action of the Government of India in the matter. The papers are submitted for perusal.

28th October 1920. A. R. B.

Copy of letter No. 657, dated 25th October 1920, from Sir Alfred Bourne to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I have been informed by the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to appoint you to be a Member of the Council of the Institute in place of the Dewan.

The next meeting is expected to take place on the 15th November at 12 noon. The papers will be sent to you in due course.

Copy of letter from Mr. A. R. Banerji to Mr. J. D. Ghandy, dated 28th October 1920.

I acknowledge with many thanks your letter of the 21st October, enclosing a copy of your representation to the Viceroy on the subject of the Indian Institute of Science.

As I was away and your suggestions were received by the Dewan after he had despatched the letter; they could not be embodied. I am sorry for this but, however, our list of points almost covers in a general way those you mentioned.

As regards Mysore control, I quite understand that you are in no way committed to our views.

Copy of D. O. dated 28th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary to His Highness.

I submit herewith for the information of His Highness the Maharaja, a copy of a letter received from Sir Thomas Holland in reply to the one I sent him enclosing a copy of our official letter to the Resident regarding the Institute of Science.

Copy of D. O. dated 28th October 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary to His Highness.

I enclose for the gracious perusal of His Highness a copy of the letter from Mr. Ghandy in regard to the Tatas' representation to His Excellency the Viceroy to appoint a Committee to investigate into the affairs of the Institute of Science, together with a copy of the representation that they have sent in the matter. You will see from my other letter sent to you to-day and its enclosure that we have now practically achieved the object with which we opened our campaign and I have also persuaded the Resident now to agree to the main proposal, *viz.*, the appointment of a Special Committee. I understand, however, that he showed our letter to Dr. Bourne and that there is some commotion in the Institute in consequence. But this need not worry us in the least for, I told Mr. Barton that if Dr. Bourne wishes to enter into a controversy with the Durbar in regard to the strictures that we have made in our representation to the Viceroy, he is welcome to do so and we shall be quite prepared to substantiate our case and that it will certainly be inadvisable for him to take such a course. Mr. Barton agreed with me and said that he was not going to allow any correspondence between the Durbar and the Institute in this matter.

Copy of D. O. dated 29th October 1920, from the Huzur Secretary to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I write to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of your two letters regarding the Institute of Science, and to say that they have been duly submitted to His Highness.

Copy of letter dated 2nd November 1920, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

Thanks for your letter of the 28th October. I am glad to note from the Agenda that you are appointed a Member of Council. It will be so nice to have you in the Council as you are now quite familiar with some of the important questions that have arisen. I propose to be in Bangalore on the morning of Sunday, 14th November, and I shall be glad if you will make it convenient to appoint a time on that day when I can come over and see and talk over matters with you. I should like to discuss the following matters :—

(1) What is to be our attitude now that Sir Arthur Lawley and Sir Murray Hammick have refused to act as Committee? Shall we resolve that the Committee be dissolved, pending reply of the Patron to the representations which the Mysore Durbar and Sir Dorabji have made?

(2) You will have noticed that Dr. Hay's term of office expires in June, when under Bye-law 36 he shall retire from service. I do not know whether this means that the Council has no power even if they wish to do so to continue his services. Whether the Electro-technological Department is to remain or not will depend on the decision arrived at by the Committee of Enquiry, when considering the future policy of the Institute. If we are to retain this Department, then we will have to seek a successor to Dr. Hay. My own idea is that, assuming that the Council has power to do so, it should ask Dr. Hay to continue until the decision of the Committee of Enquiry.

(3) Sir Alfred Bourne was to retire in October. We have no intimation what he proposes to do. Evidently, no Director having been yet appointed is a godsend to him, and he would probably like to continue in office till next summer. This is a point which also we will have to discuss.

Copy of D. O. dated 7th November 1920, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

I enclose a copy of a letter I received from Mr. Ghandy and I am fixing an appointment with him on the 15th November. I think in regard to the three points mentioned by him, our opinion should be as follows :—

(1) The Committee may be dissolved pending reply of the Patron.
(2) Dr. Hay's term may be extended till the decision of the Committee of Enquiry.
(3) Sir Alfred Bourne's term may be also temporarily extended provided it is convenient to him; otherwise, one of the senior Professors may be appointed to act as Director pending the decision of the Committee of Enquiry.

I have already received from the Director a notice for the meeting on the 15th November and I request that you will be good enough to ask your Private Secretary to send me the file connected.

with the Institute of Science. The Secretary, E & A., tells me that "the records of previous meetings and those relating to the Institute have not been properly preserved, the matter being dealt with in the Dewan's Office."

I enclose for your perusal and favour of return the Agenda paper which I received for the next meeting.

[ENCLOSURES.]

Copy of letter No. 1-10 (T) dated Delhi, the 13th December 1920, from the Secretary, Board of Industries and Munitions to the Director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

I am directed to refer to the correspondence resting with my letter No. 1—10 (T), dated the 30th November 1920, on the subject of the appointment by the Governor-General in Council of a Special Committee to examine the working of the Indian Institute of Science with a view to making suggestions as to its future policy.

The Governor-General in Council is prepared to agree to the proposal that a Special Committee should be appointed, but he is advised that to enable him to appoint such a Committee and to pass orders on receipt of its report which will be legally valid, it will be necessary, in accordance with paragraph 35 of Schedule H of the Vesting Order published with the notification by the Government of India in the Home Department No. 433, dated the 27th May 1909, for him to receive a report from the Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors. I am accordingly to request that a meeting of the Standing Committee may be convened, at as early a date as possible, to consider the question of reporting to the Governor-General in Council what matters in connection with the Institute require investigation or enquiry. On receipt of such a report the Governor-General in Council will proceed to appoint a Special Committee of Enquiry.

The report should contain a complete statement of all matters which in the opinion of the Standing Committee require investigation or enquiry in order to enable terms of reference to the Special Committee of Enquiry to be drawn up. I am further to request that the Standing Committee may be asked in making its report to state whether it recommends that the cost of the Special Committee of Enquiry, if appointed, should be borne by the funds of the Institute.

Copy of letter dated 18th December 1920, from the Director of the Indian Institute of Science, to the Members of the Standing Committee.

I enclose a copy of a letter addressed to me by the Secretary, Board of Industries and Munitions together with the usual copy of the minutes of the last meeting of the Council.

I have no power to convene a meeting of the Standing Committee and in the absence of your Chairman—Sir Alexander Cardew—in England it is not clear from the Regulations who should convene such a meeting.

As I am anxious that the matter should not be unduly delayed, I beg to suggest that I should call an extraordinary meeting of the Council, for the 17th January provided that you and the other members of the Standing Committee now in India are willing to meet the Council and subsequently if you so desire have a meeting here of your Committee.

At the meeting of the Council in November, we were informed by Mr. Banerji that the Government of Mysore had requested the Government of India to appoint a Committee of Enquiry and by Mr. Ghandy that Sir Dorabji Tata had taken a similar course. This information led to our passing Resolutions III and IV and the present letter from the Government of India follows upon my having communicated Resolution IV to that Government.

I should be glad of a very early reply to allow of time for summoning the Council. I may mention that owing to the Science Congress I cannot get the Council members together at any later date in January.

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

The chief matters for discussion seem to fall under three heads :—

(1) the nature of the work to be carried out at the Institute in at any rate the near future ;
(2) the changes which experience has proved desirable in the Constitution (Regulations under the Vesting Order) ;
(3) the Directorship.

NATURE OF THE WORK.

The only thing that really matters is to get more work done :—investigations and training in some branch or branches of knowledge.

This work is going forward as fast as can be expected with the present small staff. The funds will now allow of considerable increase in the staff and consequent acceleration in the rate of progress.

Before appointing new men to the staff the Council must decide upon the subjects to be taken up. About this matter there is difference of opinion but a decision must be arrived at and no opinion unless based upon a thorough knowledge of the country can help much.

The decision is primarily the duty of the Council under Regulation 20(7). They must be guided by the interpretation they place upon Regulation 3.

Changes in the Constitution.

No change can be made without the approval of:—

1. The Governor-General in Council.
2. Sir Dorab Tata

and an application for the change having been made by the majority of the persons acting in the administration of the trust, *viz*:—

1. the members of the Council.
2. the members of the Board of Management of the Bombay properties.

The Council have already indicated in a scheme approved by a majority of their members the general nature of the changes for which they are willing to apply. It is open to a majority of the combined bodies, the Council and the Board of Management, to make an application for any specific changes.

I suggest that this should be done. Should the Governor-General in Council approve such proposals it will be necessary for them to seek the consent of Sir Dorab Tata and it will be open to them to ask the Standing Committee whether they consider that the proposals should be referred to a Special Committee of Enquiry.

It must be borne in mind that if a Special Committee is appointed now without waiting until the application referred to above has been made, it will still eventually rest with the Council in combination with the Board of Management to make an application before the Constitution can be changed.

Further if a Special Committee be eventually considered desirable, the Council should have previously framed certain definite issues to be placed before that Committee with the view of obtaining that Committee's advice thereon.

The Council are not at present aware of the reasons that have led the Government of Mysore and Sir Dorab Tata to ask for the appointment of a Special Committee nor have they any idea of the changes that these authorities seek to introduce. In view of the fact stated above that the actual application for change must come from the Council (and Board of Management), it would I submit be better for these authorities to acquaint the Council at this stage of the nature of the changes they desire because if these authorities both desire the same changes and a majority of the Council (and Board of Management) agree, the sanction of the Governor-General in Council may be at once sought to the necessary alterations in the Regulations and a Special Committee would be unnecessary.

The Directorship.

This is a pressing matter. At the meeting last July some members of the Council undoubtedly acted under a misapprehension and my impression with regard to the matter is that the Council are now willing to comply not only with the letter but with the spirit of Regulation 25 and would at once appoint a Committee in England laying down only the duties to be performed by the Director and the terms of his appointment and asking that Committee to nominate one or more persons for approval or selection by the Council. Confirmation by the Patron must of course follow.

I do not however know how far there is general agreement, among the authorities whose consent is involved, as to the desirability of having a Director, that is to say, any one person of standing whom the Council would invest with considerable powers.

This would seem to be the matter requiring settlement and as the existing Regulations would seem to postulate a Director, it is almost certain that the abolition of the post would require change in the Constitution and therefore application

by the majority of the Council and Board of Management. The possibility of securing such a majority may be at once ascertained.

Without agreeing as to the Directorship there is however the possibility of a majority being willing to apply for such changes in the Constitution as would deprive the Council of any voice in this specific question; this also can easily be ascertained.

Supposing it is decided to retain the Directorship, the Council cannot throw upon a Committee in England the responsibility of selecting candidates regardless of any considerations as to the duties and powers of the Director and without clear instructions as to the terms of the appointment which depend to some extent at any rate upon these considerations.

A Director without considerable administrative ability would be useless; the question remains whether and if so to what extent, he should take part in the scientific work of the Institute and if he should so do, in what branch of science he should be an authority.

If it comes to the Council making a decision in regard to this latter, they must first agree to some extent upon the nature of the work to be undertaken by the Institute in the future. I say, "to some extent" because it may be assumed that for instance, chemistry will always form part of that work and no harm would be done by asking for a chemist; while if there is any chance of chemistry being the only subject dealt with, it is clear that any man taking part in that work must be a chemist having specialized in some branch or another of that subject. I put this forward as an instance. It is unnecessary at this stage to labour the argument. What seems quite clear is that with their existing powers which cannot be taken away from them without a majority consent, there are certain directions in which the Council could safely proceed without any further delay.

Copy of D. O. dated 30th December 1920, from the Dewan to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

Dr. Seal who called on me the other day told me that a meeting of the Court of Visitors of the Indian Institute of Science is to come off on the 17th proximo. He wants to be instructed as to what he has to say at the meeting. Will you kindly do the needful in the matter? He is prepared to come down to Bangalore and discuss the matter with you on the 9th or the 10th proximo. He has a meeting of the Council here on the 8th idem and so can't come earlier. If you can conveniently see him some time to-day before you return to Bangalore to-day and have a preliminary talk, it would perhaps, be a good thing.

Copy of letter dated 4th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to Mr. J. D. Ghandy.

I presume you have seen Dr. Bourne's circular notice and enclosures for a special meeting on the 17th of the Council of the Institute of Science. The Director's note is a cunning piece of special pleading. Sorry I cannot attend on the 17th but I shall be obliged if you will let me know what attitude you are going to take so that I may send a note embodying the views of Mysore.

Copy of D. O. dated 4th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

I enclose for your kind perusal copies of correspondence sent by the Director of the Institute of Science.

I am instructing the Vice-Chancellor in regard to the whole case. It is to be regretted that I shall not be able to attend the Council Meeting on the 17th, as I shall be leaving Calcutta on the 16th and travelling on that date.

The note of the Director ignores altogether the Mysore Government and I am privately also consulting Mr. Ghandy as to the attitude we both should take in regard to this note.

Copy of Telegram, dated 5th January 1921 to Mr. J. D. Ghandy, Bombay.

Please see Bournes circular letter 3rd January sorry cannot attend meeting 17th situation raises difficulties and we must act together to prevent obstacles being put in way of Special Committee of enquiry council may ask for our representations being placed on table kindly let me know your views posting you my note to-day BANERJI.

Copy of Telegram from Mr. Ghandy, Bombay, to A. R. Banerji, Esq., dated 5th January 1921.

Your to-days telegram received stop see no necessity of Council Meeting considering Members Standing Committee have agreed to meet stop propose wiring Director as follows if you agree stop since Standing Committee have agreed to meet see no necessity of Council Meeting Stop Standing Committee must send their

report independently of views of council as provided in Regulation 35 stop Members of Standing Committee will be provided with copies of Representation to Viceroy from Mysore Durbar and Sir Dorabji Tata stop these will supply enough materials to Standing Committee for making their report stop please wire whether you agree to this stop on receipt of your reply I will wire as above to Director stop council have already signified to Viceroy their consent to a Committee being appointed stop see no reason why they should further interfere with the deliberations of the Standing Committee—GHANDY.

Copy of Telegram, dated 5th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji, to Mr. J. D. Ghandy, Bombay

Your Telegram I agree Your wiring Director as Proposed My Note practically repeats your views—BANERJI.

Copy of D. O. dated 5th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Vice-Chancellor, Mysore University.

I am sending you a complete file *re* Institute of Science; also a note of objections to the procedure followed.

I leave Bangalore on the 10th and do not return till 19th. If you can conveniently come here for a day to discuss matters before I leave, I shall be obliged. Please read carefully the demi-official letter to Mr. Barton, the Vesting Order of the Government of India, bye-laws, the calendar of 1914-15 which contains all important papers giving Constitution, etc. The confidential report of 1918 from the Council proposing change of constitution and the representation of the Tatas to the Patron to appoint a Special Committee is also sent.

I enclose list of papers.

Copy of D. O. dated 5th January 1221, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

In continuation of my yesterday's letter, I enclose a memorandum of objections which I propose sending Dr. Bourne for your approval. I fear the Council is going to raise trouble although at the last meeting they resolved that they welcomed the appointment of a Committee of Enquiry. I understand Sir Alfred Chatterton intends moving that the previous resolution be cancelled and that the Council should oppose the appointment until the representations of Mysore and Tata to the Viceroy are communicated to them. I think we should not be a party to the Council being drawn jointly into a discussion which according to the constitution should be confined to the Standing Committee alone.

NOTE BY THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL,

(MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE REPRESENTING MYSORE DURBAR.)

The Governor-General in Council having suggested that a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Court of Visitors should be held to consider the question of the appointment of a Special Committee of Enquiry, it is not clear how the Executive Council of the Institute of Science can legitimately take up that question for discussion at the Extraordinary meeting which the Director has now convened with the ostensible object of meeting the Members of the Standing Committee. There is nothing in the Regulation to provide for any joint session of the two bodies or joint discussion on matters which lie entirely within the jurisdiction of the Standing Committee. I maintain that under the Vesting Order, the Council has no jurisdiction over the question of general policy and the Constitution of the Institute, although it has power to regulate courses of study and research by framing bye-laws. I fail to see how as stated by the Director it will still eventually rest with the Council in combination with the Board of Management to make an application before the Constitution can be changed. I am of opinion that the Council has under the present constitution no *locus standi* in the matter of change in the Constitution of the Institute, and the attempt now made by the Director to introduce the Council into the discussions that strictly speaking, should be confined to the Standing Committee only—as the higher body of control and advice—is open to technical and other objections.

The question as to whether a Special Committee of Enquiry should be appointed to investigate into the future policy or constitution of the Institute has been referred by the Governor-General in Council to the Standing Committee. Even if it were not so referred, the Mysore Representatives of the Tatas could bring up the question themselves before that Committee. The Council clearly is not competent to take up such a question jointly with the Standing Committee and frame resolutions.

On these grounds, I consider that any discussions that may take place in the Committee on the Note by the Director at the Extraordinary Meeting convened for the 17th instant, will not be regular and any resolutions that may be framed and recorded will not be binding on the Mysore Durbar.

Copy of D. O. dated 5th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary.

I have sent the enclosed papers to the Dewan. It is a pity I can't attend the meeting of the 17th as I shall be on my way between Calcutta and Madras, leaving Calcutta on the 16th.

The Director's procedure calling a meeting of the Council is, I think, a clever move on his part to draw them into this business and complicate issues. His Note also ignores many points and indicates that the present Council has to propose change in the Constitution. We must take care to see that the Council does not take to obstructive tactics so far as the Special Committee of Enquiry is concerned. I propose to send for record, the enclosed Memorandum of objection to procedure adopted.

Perhaps I had better see Mr. Barton about the business and keep him on his guard as I cannot be present at the meeting. I am also addressing Mr. Ghandy.

Copy of D. O. dated 6th January 1921, from A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

In continuation of my yesterday's letter, I enclose for your kind perusal copy of a telegram I received from Mr. Ghandy last night.. You will see from the above the views he urges are those I expressed in the Note I sent you, which may now be kindly approved so that I may send it to Dr. Bourne.

Copy of letter dated 7th January 1921, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I send you copy of a letter which I have received from Sir Alfred Chatterton and copy of the reply which I have sent. The main object of the extraordinary meeting seems to be to find out the contents of the representations which we have made. The whole procedure seems to me thoroughly illegal.

It struck me however that without the Council assisting the Standing Committee the latter might say they had no materials upon which to make their report. I have therefore sent a telegram to Sir Thomas Holland copy of which I send you asking him to wire to the Standing Committee to make use of the representations sent by the Mysore Durbar and Sir D. J. Tata for framing their report.

For perusal and kind return.

A. R. B.
9—11—21.

Seen and returned

M. K.
11—1—21.

[ENCLOSURES.]

Copy of letter dated 5th January 1921, from Sir Alfred Chatterton to Mr. J. D. Ghandy.

I presume you have received Bourne's notice convening an extraordinary meeting of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science for Monday the 17th January 1921. Attached to that letter is a note by the Director which, in regard to the changes in the constitution, sums up the position very clearly. It seems to me that we ought to have at the meeting the reasons given by the Government of Mysore and by Sir Dorab Tata for asking for a Committee to enquire into the working of the Indian Institute of Science. Yesterday, I saw Banerji and I asked him to place before the Council a copy of the Mysore Government's application and I think it would be equally convenient if you could bring down from Bombay Sir Dorab Tata's application assuming that you have seen it and have a copy of the same. If the Council have not the reasons before them which have induced the applicants to go to the Government of India, I do not see how they can agree to supporting blindly the application for a Committee of Enquiry. My own view of the matter is that if we know the reasons, we might support the application; but if we do not know what the reasons are, the Council should take action by making an application as indicated in the Vesting Order and as described by the Director in his note. I am extremely anxious to support the proposals for a Committee of Enquiry if I can approve of the lines on which changes are considered desirable. So far as I know, I am in entire agreement with Sir Dorab Tata in the matter; but I canuot as a Member of the Council logically support his application unless I know what he has applied for. Possibly you cannot put his application before the Council for their consideration; but if you can, I think it will greatly facilitate coming to some conclusion. The constitution is so beastly complicated that even though we may all desire to work together, it may turn out that the machine is so constructed that it will not work at all. I am remaining here till after the 17th so as to attend this meeting of the Council.

Mr. Ghandy's reply to the above, dated 7th January 1921.

I have just received your letter No. 787, dated the 5th instant. I think the Director's attitude in calling a meeting of the Council to sit in Joint Session with the Standing Committee is a mistake. There is no provision for this in the Regulations. The Governor-General in Council has asked for a report of the Standing Committee and they must make a report independently of the Council. Regulation 35 provides for a report of the Standing Committee. It must be their own report and

not based on instructions or materials provided by the Council. If the report is made by the Standing Committee sitting in Session with the Council, it will certainly lay itself open to various objections and may be held to be illegal. I have, therefore, written a letter to the Director, a copy of which I enclose herewith. I do not wish to be a party to this extraordinary procedure and I have written to the Director that I do not wish to be present at the meeting.

Copy of Telegram dated 7th January 1921, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Sir Thomas Holland, Delhi.

Re Bangalore Institute on Invitation of Director Members of Standing Committee have Agreed to Assemble in Bangalore on the 17th to make their Report to Governor General as suggested by you stop but the Director has also called an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council to sit in session with Standing Committee has prepared an Agenda for discussion in the joint Meeting stop this seems to me an extraordinary procedure stop Governor-General and Regulation 35 require an independent report of the Standing Committee and not one actuated or suggested by Council whose general method of working may be one of the subjects Commented in the report stop mereover a report produced in this way may be held to be invalid as not in conformity with Regulation 35 and the Governor-General may be advised that its action based on such a report is not binding stop in order it may not be said that Standing Committee has no materials before them I suggest that you wire to Standing Committee that they are to act independently of Council and they may take into consideration the Representations made by Mysore Durbar and Sir Dorab Tata copies of which will be supplied to them by Mysore and me stop Three Members of Standing Committee now in India are Accountant-General of Madras Vice-Chancellor of the University of Mysore and Padshah—GHANDY.

Copy of letter dated 7th January 1921, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

Many thanks for your letter of the 4th and your telegram of the 6th. As there is plenty of time instead of wiring to the Director I have written to him a letter pointing out that in my opinion a Report by the Standing Committee sitting in Joint Session with the Council would be open to the objection that it was not the independent Report of the Standing Committee which is what is wanted to give validity to the proceeding of the Governor-General. I have also intimated that if the meeting is still held I will not be present. I send you a copy of my letter.

You will no doubt furnish your nominee on the Standing Committee copies of the representations made by the Mysore Durbar and by Sir D. J. Tata. I will furnish copies to Mr. Padshah. When Mr. Padshah comes to Bangalore do make a point of seeing him and explain to him everything.

Since writing the above I have received your letter of the 5th with your note of objection.

For perusal and kind return.

A. R. B.
9—1—21.

Seen and returned with thanks.

M. K.
11—1—21.

[ENCLOSURE.]

Copy of letter dated 7th January 1921. from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to the Director of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

I am in receipt of your letter No. 6969, and dated 3rd January 1921, intimating that you are convening an extraordinary meeting of the Council for Monday the 17th January 1921 in order that the Council may discuss with the members of the Standing Committee the question of the appointment of a Special Committee by the Government of India.

I fail to see the necessity of a meeting of the Council to discuss the question of appointment of a Special Committee with the Standing Committee. The Viceroy has asked for a Report from the Standing Committee and I think they should meet alone to frame such a Report and send it to the Viceroy. There was no doubt some difficulty in getting together the members of the Standing Committee as there was no machinery provided in the Regulations for convening their meetings. But now that by your invitation they have agreed to assemble they must hold their meetings independently of the Council.

Moreover I think that Report by the Standing Committee sitting in joint session with the Council will not be in confirmity with Regulation 35 which contemplates the Committee forming their own opinion independently of the Council. As the Governor-General-in-Council is anxious that in order to enable him to appoint a Committee and to pass orders on receipt of its Report which would be legally valid, I think that there should be no interference by the Council with the deliberations of the Standing Committee which would lay their Report open to the objections that it was not their own independent Report. As far as the Council is concerned they have intimated to the Governor-General-in-Council that they welcome the appointment of the Special Committee and I do not think they need do any further in the matter.

If the members of the Standing Committee so require, copies of the representations of the Mysore Durbar and Sir D. J. Tata will be furnished to them.

For these reasons I do not think that the meeting of the Council convened by you should be held. If after this should you still think it proper to hold the meeting I do not think I should like to be present, or be in any way a party to a procedure which is not in confirmity to the regulations.

Copy of letter dated 7th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Director of the Indian Institute.

Thanks to your letter. I am sorry you can't alter the date. On further consideration, however, I think there is really no necessity for a meeting of the Council and I have embodied my views on the subject in a Note which I herewith enclose and which please place before the meeting if you still consider that such a meeting should be held to discuss matters referred to in your note.

Copy of letter from the Director, Indian Institute of Science to Mr. A. R. Banerji, dated 8th January 1921.

In reply to your letter of the 7th instant I will lay your " note " before the Council unless I hear from you again but I ought to give you the following information which has probably not been brought to your notice.

The Charitable Endowments' Act by which we are governed lays down that to get any change effected in a scheme the persons acting in the administration of the trust must make an application.

On the only occasion when the Government of India wished to make some changes in the Regulations they asked the Director to obtain the consent of each member of the Council and of the Board of Management, they being " the persons acting in the administration of the trusts."

This seems to me to make it quite clear that what I say in my " note " is correct and that there is no possibility of change in the Regulations without the concurrence of the Council. I can show you all the papers if you wish.

It is of course true that the Council and the Standing Committee cannot jointly pass any resolutions but it is surely open to them to discuss matters together and then separately pass any resolutions they consider desirable. . . .

If the Government of India decide that any resolution is *ultra vires*, they will doubtless inform the Council of the fact.

My own opinion is that the Council as the Executive body of the Institute can deal with any matter affecting the Institute, subject however in certain respects to decision by higher authority.

On the last occasion when a special committee was appointed, the Council made the original proposal to the Standing Committee who then presumably advised the Patron to appoint a committee.

Copy of D. O. dated 8th January 1921, from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I regret very much the delay in acknowledging your letter of the 5th instant, submitting for His Highness' information copies of correspondence in regard to the Indian Institute of Science.

His Highness shares your view that the Director's real object seems to be to prevent, if possible, the appointment of a special committee of enquiry from England, thereby avoiding all risk of any " Catastrophic Changes " taking place in the constitution or personnel of the Institute.

His Highness thinks that it would be an excellent thing for you to have a talk with the Resident, as you propose doing, and explain to him your objections and the procedure adopted by the Director.

With kindest regards.

Copy of letter, dated 10th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to Mr. J. D. Ghandy

Many thanks for your letter dated 7th instant and its enclosures.

In reply to my note Dr. Bourne wrote to me (*vide* copy of his letter enclosed) and I have also replied to him (copy also enclosed). I have also taken legal advice and I quite agree with you that the Council cannot have anything to do with the appointment of a Special Committee of inquiry and any resolution of theirs in the Council will not be legally binding.

I am instructing our Vice-Chancellor not to be a party to any joint discussion, but to sit independently. He will also be authorized to place the Mysore representation before the Standing Committee.

Copy of D. O, dated 10th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

In continuation of my previous letter, I beg to enclose for favour of perusal and return when done with original correspondence on the subject of the next meeting of the Institute of Science. I have given detailed instructions to Dr. Seal and also replied to Sir Alfred Bourne.

Your will please see from Mr. Ghandy's letters that he takes a strong view of the illegality of the procedure and has declined to be present. My last letter of this date to Dr. Bourne in reply to his merely confirms the views I first took in my note and it is better not to enter into further details of argument at this stage. I have, I may add for your information, consulted also the Government Advocate and the last communication of mine to the Director is in accordance with his legal opinion.

Copy of letter dated 10th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to Sir Alfred Bourne.

Thanks for your letter of the 8th instant. I am still of the opinion that the Council has no right to call upon the Standing Committee to meet them and jointly deliberate upon the advisability or necessity of suggesting a Committee of Enquiry and I should therefore be glad to allow the Standing Committee to have freedom of discussion in the matter. No resolution passed by the Council will be of any validity and it is needless for the Council at this stage to do anything by which the Standing Committee may feel fettered. I invite your attention to clause 35 of the Vesting Order which seems to me to be perfectly clear.

I regret therefore that I am unable to change my views or to be present at the meeting proposed to be held on the 17th instant.

I am not aware of the circumstances under which the Council on a previous occasion took the initiative in suggesting a Committee of Enquiry nor can I say whether they did it as a matter of right or on sufferance but as already stated, I have no doubt that it is the right of the Standing Committee to suggest a Special Committee of Enquiry to the Governor-General-in-Council.

Copy of D. O. dated 10th January 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Huzur Secretary.

Many thanks for your letter. The Tatas have in consultation with me also objected to the procedure and refused to attend the Council Meeting convened by Bourne. I am sending all the correspondence to the Dewan. You will find it very interesting.

Chatterton is instrumental in the attempt of turning the tables. I got the Council to agree at the last Meeting to the Special Committee of Enquiry and now they find they have fallen into the trap and want to get out of it. I could not see the Resident as he has not yet returned to Bangalore.

With kindest regards.

Copy of letter dated 13th January 1921, from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

Many thanks for your letter of the 10th together with copies of Dr. Bourne's letter to you and your reply to it. I also received a letter from him and I enclose a copy of it together with a copy of my reply. Padshah is leaving for Bangalore on Saturday the 15th instant and I understand from him that the Standing Committee will hold their own meeting and make their report independently of the Council.

I am not coming to attend the meeting of the Council.

[ENCLOSURES.]

Copy of letter No. 674, dated 10th January 1921, from Sir A. G. Bourne to Mr. J. D. Ghandy.

With reference to your letter of the 7th instant, surely there can be nothing irregular in having a meeting of the Council at which the members of the Standing Committee are present.

There can of course be no *joint* resolutions or report and I have pointed out to the members of the Standing Committee that they can have their own meeting afterwards.

The Standing Committee cannot well carry out the instructions of the Government of India and make a complete statement of all matters which require investigation or enquiry without learning as much as possible of the present state of affairs at the Institute and ascertaining the views and proposals of its executive body.

Everyone connected with the Institute has to do his best to make it a success and it seems to me to be the first essential towards harmonious working that every body concerned should know what every body else wants.

I do hope you will reconsider your decision and come to the meeting and further that you will be able to let us know something of Sir Dorab Tata's views. It *may* be possible to give effect to these without unnecessary circumlocution.

Mr. Ghandy's reply to the above dated 13th January 1921.

I am in receipt of your D. O. No. 674, dated the 10th instant. In your circular letter of 3rd January you say that the agenda will be to discuss with the Standing Committee the question of the appointment of a Special Committee by the Government of India. The question whether a Special Committee should be appointed or not is a matter in the hands of the Government of India. All that the Standing Committee has to do is to report whether matters in connection with the Institute require investigation or inquiry, and if they are to make a report to the Patron. It is open to the Standing Committee to require the Council to furnish such information or particulars in connection with the Institute as may be considered necessary. (See Regulation 35.) If such information or particulars are required by the Standing Committee a meeting of the Council may be called, but I think even that would not be necessary if the Director can furnish information on the points required by the Committee. As far as I can see, the three matters which you set down in your note as matters for discussion are all matters in respect of which materials can be placed before the Standing Committee without any discussion with the Council. First, as to the change in the constitution, the Council has already prepared a scheme, and I do not think that if a meeting of the Council is held it would add anything to it. As to the nature of the work to be carried on in future at the Institute,

Members of the Standing Committee are aware of the work which is now being done. In what respect it should be extended or what new department should be opened is for them to consider. As to the Directorship, all that the Standing Committee can do is to say that it is a matter for inquiry as to what qualifications a Director of an Institute like this should possess, as to whether he should be a man of administrative ability only or whether he should be a man who also possesses scientific attainments.

I therefore still think that it not necessary for the Council to sit in sessions with the Standing Committee but to leave them alone to make their report independently.

I am sorry I will not be able to attend the meeting.

Copy of Dewan's D. O. to Mr. A. R. Banerji, dated 17th January 1921.

I return herewith with thanks all the enclosures to your letter of 10th instant. I am glad to learn that you have taken the necessary action in the matter. Dr. Seal who came here yesterday saw me last evening and told me that he had received full instructions from you in the matter.

Copy of Mr. A. R. Banerji's letter to Mr. J. D. Ghandy, dated 23rd January 1921.

I thank you for your letter of the 13th January enclosing correspondence between yourself and Dr. Bourne.

I have heard from our Vice-Chancellor of what transpired at the meeting on the 17th instant. Perhaps you have also heard from Mr. Padshah. I must confess I am a little disappointed at the attitude that Mr. Padshah took throughout the discussions. It certainly did appear as if he was not supporting the representations of Sir Dorab Tata. The Standing Committee resolutions have not yet been framed but I understand they came to some decision on all the outstanding points after considerable argument between our Vice-Chancellor and Mr. Padshah; and the latter, I am glad, eventually did concede to some of the points, but it appears to have been an uphill work.

Please treat this as strictly confidential. I shall be able to advise you more fully in the matter when I receive the Official report from the Vice-Chancellor.

Copy of Mr. A. R. Banerji's letter to Dr. Seal, dated 23rd January 1921.

With reference to our conversation regarding the meeting in the Institute of Science of the Standing Committee, I shall be much obliged if you will send me demi-officially for the information of His Highness, a full account of both the meeting of the Council and that of the Standing Committee.

Copy of Mr. J. D. Ghandy's letter, dated 25th January 1921, to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I am in receipt of your confidential letter of the 23rd instant.

Whatever the report of the Standing Committee may contain, the one point for which we have been fighting will be achieved, namely, that the report will recommend to the Viceroy that a Special Committee be appointed to investigate the affairs of the Institute. Mr. Padshah told me about the various arguments which he had with your Vice-Chancellor, but I did not gather that there will be anything in the report which will in any way minimize the effect of our representations to the Viceroy.

The letter which I received by last mail from Sir Dorabji says that he has been after Mr. Montagu to urge the Viceroy to appoint as Chairman of the Special Committee a distinguished scientist from England, and particularly Sir William Pope. Sir Dorabji will be in Bombay next Friday, when very probably he will take up the matter with Sir Thomas Holland.

Copy of letter dated 1st February 1921 from Mr. J. D. Ghandy to Mr. A. R. Banerji, C.I.E.

Sir Dorabji Tata who has returned from England has recently had a confidential telegram marked "private" from Mr. Montagu saying that the Viceroy has represented to him that arrangements have already been made at the instance of your Government for an immediate enquiry into the affairs of the Institute. Mr. Montagu further adds that Sir Alfred Bourne's term as Director ends in March and unless a successor can then be appointed as a result of the Enquiry, the Council could ask for a new Director at once. He also enquires if Sir Dorab can suggest some alternative to waiting for Sir William Pope so as to enable him to meet the views expressed to him by the Government of India.

That an enquiry should be held into the affairs of the Institute is a point on which we have all been in unanimous agreement. Sir Dorab when he was in England made exhaustive enquiries, and came to the conclusion that there was at the moment no more qualified person to undertake a thorough and independent enquiry than Sir William Pope, the distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Cambridge. Sir William has been closely associated with chemical researches and he is responsible not only for the teaching but also for the research organization at the University and is held in very high esteem in the scientific world. In fact, the Chemical Department at the University is reckoned to be one of the finest that any British University possesses to-day. It was with some difficulty that Sir Dorab obtained the consent of the University authorities to spare Sir William Pope for the purpose of the enquiry in India, and such consent was given only as a matter of Imperial Duty.

When the Government of India suggested some time ago that the enquiry should take place at the earliest possible moment, Mr. Montagu asked Sir Dorabji whether in his opinion the advantages

of an early enquiry would outweigh the advantages of having Sir William Pope to conduct it. Sir William, you may perhaps remember, is due in Canada in August next and he could either come to India next May or June, at the end of the present University term, or after November next. He himself suggested that if he came after his visit to Canada he might have more time at his disposal and above all, would have time to enquire into the general scientific conditions in India and get into touch with the scientific atmosphere of the country. In answer to Mr. Montagu's enquiry Sir Dorab informed him that he thought the advantages of having Sir William far outweighed the advantages of an early enquiry. The Institute had been going all these years and he thought that no harm would be done by postponing the enquiry till the next cold weather. Mr. Montagu thereupon communicated to the Viceroy Sir Dorabji's wishes, but it is now only too apparent that the Government of India are for reasons known only to themselves, not anxious to entrust it to Sir William Pope. Otherwise why this inordinate haste to have an immediate enquiry? Sir Dorab has felt all along that if an enquiry is to be held at all, it should be under the direction and chairmanship of an independent and distinguished chemist and he would rather forego an enquiry than have it conducted by a sort of semi-official Committee.

He is unable to understand also the suggestion made by the Government of India to the Secretary of State that the Council could ask for a new Director at once. When the Council met on the 15th of November, you will remember that a Resolution was passed to the effect that no further steps need be taken at present to appoint a permanent Director and that Sir Alfred might continue as Director until next meeting of the Council. Should he for reasons of his own desire to leave at an early date, the senior professor could be appointed as officiating Director. Even after the date of the next Council meeting, the acting arrangement may continue until a Director is permanently appointed.

Mr. Montagu has very kindly asked Sir Dorab if he can suggest any alternative to waiting for Sir William Pope, and I am writing to enquire if the suggestion made by the Secretary of State that your Government desire an immediate enquiry, is a correct representation of the views you hold on this subject. It will save time if you could very kindly telegraph to me your reply. In the meantime, Sir Dorabji is cabling to Mr. Montagu to say that the Council themselves last November came to the conclusion that no further steps need be taken at present as regards the appointment of a permanent Director and that as regards the holding of the enquiry immediately, he was ascertaining your view and would cable to him again on the subject after he heard from you. Sir Dorab informs me that Mr. Montagu took the keenest interest in the affairs of the Institute, and was ever ready to communicate Sir Dorabji's views to the Government of India apart from being very sympathetic towards the idea of an independent and searching enquiry. The University of Cambridge also have consented to spare Sir William Pope for the purpose and it would be a most unfortunate thing at this stage if your Government and the Government of India, knowing that Sir William Pope could not possibly come out at once, insisted on the enquiry being held immediately. Would it be too much for us to hope that, in the interest of the Institute and its future, your Government at least will not be instrumental in urging an immediate enquiry at the sacrifice of a thorough and independent enquiry by one of the greatest chemists of the day?"

Copy of the Telegraphic reply to Mr. Ghandy's letter, 7th February 1920.

Your letter of First. Immediate inquiry not recommended nor feasible. I adhere to November Council Resolution regarding Directorship. New Director can be appointed only after the inquiry pending which acting arrangements should suffice Inquiry may very well commence next cold weather so as to get the best possible men together by that time.—Banerji.

Copy of D. O. dated 7th February 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Assistant Secretary to His Highness.

I submit herewith for the gracious perusal of His Highness, a copy of letter, dated the 1st February received from Mr. Ghandy and of my telegram to him in reply, in regard to the affairs of the Indian Institute of Science.

Copy of D. O. dated 7th February 1921, from Mr. A. R. Banerji to the Dewan.

I enclose herewith for your information a copy of the letter (Confidential), dated the 1st February 1921, received from Mr. Ghandy and of my telegram to him in reply, in regard to the affairs of the Indian Institute of Science.

Copy of D. O. dated 8th February 1921, from the Assistant Secretary to His Highness to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I am directed to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the copies of correspondence, between yourself and Mr. Ghandy in regard to the affairs of the Indian Institute of Science, forwarded with your D. O. letter dated the 7th Instant.

Copy of Mr. J. D. Ghandy's letter to Mr. A. R. Banerji, dated 9th February 1921.

I am much obliged to you for your letter and telegram of the 7th instant in reply to my letter of the 1st instant. Sir Dorab cabled at once to Mr. Montagu privately to say that we gathered that the Mysore Durbar do not think that an immediate inquiry is needed or is even feasible. He has not yet heard in reply. But I shall let you know as soon as he does.

Copy of letter dated 18th February 1921, from the Director, Indian Institute of Science to Mr. A. R. Banerji.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday, the 17th January 1921.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science held at the offices of the Institute on Monday, the 17th January 1921, at 12 noon.

PRESENT.

The Hon'ble Mr. W. P. Barton., C.S.I., C.I.E.,
British Resident in Mysore, Chairman.

A. Y. G. Campbell, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.
Sir Alfred Chatterton, Kt., C.I.E.
Dr. Gilbert J. Fowler, D.Sc., F.I.C.
Dr. Alfred Hay, D.Sc., M.I.E.E.
Dr. J. J. Sudborough, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.C.
Sir Alfred G. Bourne, D.Sc., F.R.S., K.C.I.E., *Director.*

Messrs. Brijendranath Seal, B. J. Padshah and W. D. Woollam, Members of the Standing Committee were present as visitors.

An informal discussion took place relative to the matters arising out of the letter from the Secretary, Board of Industries and Munitions, No. 1-10 T dated the 13th December 1920 requesting that a meeting of the Standing Committee should be convened to consider the question of reporting to the Governor-General in Council what matters in connection with the Institute require investigation or enquiry.

Towards the end of the general discussion the Chairman and Mr. Campbell were obliged to leave the meeting to fulfil another engagement and the chair was taken by Sir Alfred Chatterton.

After the visitors had withdrawn, the Council (five members only being present) considered the desirability of addressing the Government of India and read a draft letter which had been prepared as a basis for discussion but decided to take no action.

The Residency, Bangalore, 21st February 1921.

DEAR MR. BANERJI,

I have received an enquiry regarding the Institute of Science to which I am unable to reply without consulting you. I should be very much obliged if you would be so good as to call on me to-day. I shall be free after 12-30 p. m. and at home all day.

Sincerely Yours,
S. J. KNOX.

Note.—Met the Resident and he showed me a telegram from the Government of India asking for the real purport of my last message to Mr. Ghandy. This was explained thus:—

The point of the Durbar's opinion is that the Durbar want a strong Committee, and immediate appointment of a Committee impracticable as Chairman proposed by Sir Dorab is not available just now and Durbar wish to fall in with Sir Dorab's views in the matter.

9th March 1921. A. R. BANERJI.